

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Hornbill House, Dr.Salim Ali Chowk, S.B. Singh Road, Bombay 400 023.

111th ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1ST APRIL 1994 TO 31ST MARCH 1995 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 1994-1995

President Mr. B.G. Deshmukh, IAS (Retd.)

Vice Presidents Mrs. D.S. Variava Dr. P.R. Saraiya Mr. D.S. Chavda

Hon. Secretary Dr. A.M. Bhagwat

Hon. Treasurer Mr. Sunil Zaveri

Director Dr. Jay S. Samant

MEMBERS FROM 1994-1995

Mr. M.R. Almeida, Mr. Yogi Andley, Dr. B.F. Chhapgar, Mr. J.C. Daniel
Dr. Arun Joshi, Dr. A. Kothari, Mr. K.P. Karamchandani, Dr. Shashi Menon
Dr. A.N.D. Nanavati, Mr. Ulhas Rane, Dr. Rajendra Shinde, Dr. V.S. Vijayan

The Secretary, Ministry of Environment

& Forests, Govt. of India

The Director of Archaeology

& Museums, Govt. of Maharashtra.

SPECIAL INVITEE

Mr. Humayun Abdulali

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. D.K. Lahiri Choudhury, Prof. Raghavendra Gadagkar, Dr. Anil Gore, Prof. K.C. Malhotra,
Lt. Gen. Baljit Singh, AVSM, VSM, Mr. Samar Singh, Mr. Romulus Whitaker.

AUDITORS

M/s Habib and Company, Chartered Accountants, Bombay.

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The following office bearers were Ex-officio members of all the Sub-Committees.

Hon. Secretary	Dr. Ashok M. Bhagwat
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. Sunil Zaveri
Director	Dr. Jay S. Samant

PUBLICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman	Dr. Jay Samant (Director)
Members	Dr. Pratap Saraiya (Vice President) Mr. B.F. Chhapgar Mr. J.C. Daniel
Convenor	Dr. Gayatri Ugra (Publication Officer)

The Publications Section has adhered to its policy of self-sufficiency with the sale of its popular titles such as the **Book of Indian Birds**, **Book of Indian Animals** and the **Book of Indian Reptiles**. Also popular were **Pictorial Guide to the Birds of the Indian Sub-Continent** and **Some Beautiful Indian Trees**. The books are marketed through the Oxford University Press. The royalty from sale of books for the year 1994-95 was Rs. 9,10,995. The revised edition of the **Pictorial Guide to the Birds of the Indian Sub-Continent** and the **Book of Indian Birds** are nearing completion. Several new titles are being worked on, including books on Indian trees, wetland flora and a field guide to Indian sea shells.

The **Hornbill Series** booklets published by the NCSTC in collaboration with the Society are intended to popularize various aspects of natural history. Six titles are now ready for the press.

The Section has succeeded in tightening up the schedule of publication of **Hornbill** and **Journal**. In this financial year, **Hornbill** 1993 (3)

and (4) and 1994 (1) and (2) were published. Of the **Journal**, Vol. 90:3(1993), Vol. 91:1,2 and 3 (1994) have been published. **Hornbill** and **Journal** continue to be a resource drain, though some advertising support has been obtained for the **Hornbill**, as well as grants from the Mehta Scientific Education and Research Trust and Seth Purushotamdas Thakurdas and Divaliba Charitable Trust. The Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India released a grant of Rs. 50,000 for this financial year. The shortfall for **Hornbill** and **Journal** is met by the Society as these publications are crucial in dissemination of scientific information, which is one of the main activities of the Society.

One Sr. Computer Operator and a Publication Assistant were recruited in March 1995. A new computer (486DX2 - assembled) installed with **Pagemaker 5.0** was purchased for the Publication Section.

The Publication Officer conducted a one day workshop on Print Media for the CEP staff.

PRODUCTS SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairperson	Mrs. D.S. Variava (Vice President)
Members	Mr. Atul Mathur Mrs. Meenu Kamat Mrs. Juliet Mendonca Mr. Francis D'Costa
Convenor	Mr. Joslin Rodrigues (Product Executive)

The Product Section continued to fulfill its objective of producing cards and calendars that reflected the Society's commitment to excellence in quality and reasonable prices.

Due to problems in production of the catalogue, the season started late, but in all, approximately 1,35,000 cards and 15,000 calendars were sold along with other products, leading to a net surplus of approximately Rs. 4.47 lakhs.

A new concept was introduced in the table

calendar by using lithographs of Himalayan flowers for a new series entitled "Gems from Nature". The idea of this series is to make available to members and others, pictures which may not otherwise be easily available because the pictures are from rare, out of print books. Eventually, the Society may be able to use these prints for publication in book form.

The Product Committee appreciates the co-operation of all concerned members of the staff and volunteers to produce high quality products.

NATURE EDUCATION, PROGRAMME & MEMBERSHIP SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman
Members

Mr. Ulhas Rane
Dr. Ashok Kothari
Dr. Arun Joshi
Dr. Shashi Menon
Mr. T.V. Sowrirajan
Mr. V.K. Paralkar
Mr. Vilas Shingre
Mr. Naresh Chaturvedi (Curator)
Mr. Deepak Apte (Nature Education Officer)
Ms. Caroline Vincent (Membership Officer)

Convenor

MEMBERSHIP

This year ordinary membership showed a slight increase. Similarly, Life Members increased to 1421 from 1345. It was observed that several Ordinary members converted their membership to Life membership. An attempt to increase membership during the celebration of Dr. Salim Ali's Birth Centenary will be undertaken with the help of members, along with other BNHS departments like Nature Education, SANCF, Public Relations & Products.

The Environment Workshops organised for the Armed Forces have yielded good results in the form of new membership. More such workshops should be organised. We also conducted special membership drives for the Bombay Chartered Accountants' Society and IAS & IPS Wives' Association, which was very successful in enrolling new members and enabled the BNHS to publicise its activities.

Membership for the year 1994 - 95

Type of membership	Year		
	1992	1993	1994/95
Ordinary (Indian)	1527	1663	1677
Student	403	480	409
Life (Indian)	1305	1345	1421
Corporate	32	54	7
Compound Corporate	111	111	111
Family	57	8	0
Ordinary (Foreign)	15	24	25
Life (Foreign)	211	211	192
Institutional	0	0	77

PROGRAMMES

Annual Nature Camps

Several annual nature camps were arranged, out of which camps at Har-Ki Doon in Garhwal Himalayas, Corbett National Park in Uttar Pradesh, Kanha National Park near Jabalpur, Dajipur Wildlife Sanctuary near Kolhapur, Nanaj Wildlife Sanctuary near Solapur and a combined visit to National Parks and Sanctuaries of Vidarbha were some of the more successful camps.

Overnight Nature Camps

These camps were arranged with a duration from 2 to 4 days at Mahabaleshwar, Ransai Lake, Nandur-Madhmeshwar and Kelwe Dam.

Nature Walks

These walks were held during weekends. The outings were arranged at Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Yewoor Trail, Tungreshwar, BNHS land and Jijamata Udyan (Bombay Zoo) for study of flora and fauna. In all, 30 such nature walks were organised.

Film/Slide Shows

Video as well as 16 mm films on various natural history subjects were screened during the year. Talks illustrated with slide shows were given by invited guest speakers, BNHS members and staff. Altogether, 72 shows were held.

Wildlife Week

Wildlife Week was celebrated from 3rd to 8th October during which an exhibition of nature on postal stamps was organised. Postal stamps on birds, mammals, marine life, butterflies and other insects from the collection of the Curator, Mr Naresh Chaturvedi, were exhibited.

An exhibition of wildlife photographs was organised by the BNHS members at Panvel.

World Forestry Day

World Forestry Day was celebrated on 21st March. On this occasion the beautified footpath of Hornbill House was inaugurated by the Municipal Commissioner, Shri Sharad Kale. The inauguration was followed by tree planting by the Commissioner.

NATURE EDUCATION

Summer Camp

The annual programme began with a summer vacation camp for students at Tansa Wildlife Sanctuary. The camp was held from 21st to 23rd May. Tansa, a dry deciduous forest is ideal for watching birds in summer. A total of 60 species of birds were seen during the three days stay. A leopard was sighted by a few students. Tracks of various animals were observed. Demonstration of how to take pug mark casts was also given. Since it was summer, all afternoon programmes were held indoors, which included sketching, quiz competition and a session on nature education and students' participation. In all, 17 students participated in the camp.

Monsoon Camp

Nature orientation camps conducted regularly at the IIT had been discontinued for a couple of years. This year the camp was held at the IIT from 26th to 30th June, in which 30 participants attended.

New topics like rain forests, remote sensing techniques and snake show were covered along with other activities.

Post Monsoon Camp

To study the breeding habits of Great Indian Bustard and the grassland habitat, a four day camp was organised at Nanaj Sanctuary at Solapur from 20th to 24th August 1994. 22 participants attended the camp.

Rural Camps

The Nature Education Scheme has always had a special interest in rural camps. This year a rural camp at Pirangut in Mulsi Taluka, District Pune, was sponsored and held from 14th to 18th November. 120 students and 15 teachers attended the camp. A rural camp was also arranged for Kamalabai Nimbkar Balbhavan at Phaltan, in Satara district at Mahabaleshwar for two days. 22 students participated in this camp.

Nature Rambles

In all, 40 field trips to various places like Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Tungreshwar, Karnala and Prabalgad and Juhu beach were conducted. Out of these 40 trips, 5 were arranged for college students while the rest were for school students of stds. 8-10. Altogether 1734 students participated in nature rambles throughout the year.

Talks illustrated with slides/films

Various schools were visited for slide shows on different aspects of natural history and nature education. In all, 22 slide shows were held.

Five film shows were held at schools and one at an organisation (SOCLEEN). Besides these activities, seven snake shows, two visits to the natural history section of the Prince of Wales Museum and two visits to the BNHS collections were also conducted. Of these, snake shows were the most popular and were attended by maximum number of students. 3714 students attended various slide shows, film shows and snake shows, visits to zoo and museum.

Programme for Forest Guards

An awareness programme was conducted for the forest guards of Tansa Wildlife Sanctuary. Importance of proper documentation of field data and data entry methods were explained. 30 forest guards participated in the programme.

Workshop

A Nature Orientation Workshop for teachers was organised at the BNHS from 9th to 11th January 1995. A grant was received from Ministry of Environment and Forests, through the BAIF for this programme. Though 18 teachers had registered for the workshop, only 10 of them were able to attend. Lecture-cum-slide shows were presented by various resource persons from the BNHS. A one day nature walk was arranged at the BNHS land at Goregaon.

Seminar

A seminar organised by Paryavaran Vahini, Thane unit was attended by the Education Officer at Thane as resource person. A one day trail was

conducted at Tansa, Suryamal and Shahapur.

Another Seminar conducted by the CEP was attended by the Education Officer as participant. Later, a half day nature trail was led during the seminar at the BNHS land.

Special Programmes

A *Shramadan* was arranged for six consecutive Sundays at the BNHS land to build an earthen bund for soil and water conservation. On an average 10 members participated every Sunday.

A special programme was arranged at the IIT, as a part of the Wildlife Week celebration. Four film shows and one slide show were held for the IIT students and general public. Around 100 visitors attended the shows. The BNHS stalls were arranged at the IIT campus. The BNHS stall was also arranged at St. Xavier's College during the Malhar festival. Besides being educational, these activities were conducted as membership drive also.

As resource person, the Education Officer attended a camp at Junnar in Pune for the YMCA secretaries from all over India. Three sessions on nature education and people's participation were held and a morning nature trail was arranged.

Tree plantation was undertaken to celebrate World Environment Day at the BNHS land.

Competitions

A painting competition for school students was arranged on the eve of Late Dr. Salim Ali's birthday. 220 students participated in the competition. Paintings were judged by a panel of judges. The prizes were distributed on 23rd November 1994 by the President, BNHS.

An all-India essay competition was held in which 140 essays were received. The final selection of the prize winning essays was done by a panel of judges. The prizes will be distributed on a special occasion.

In all, a total of 6224 students and others participated in various activities like camps, nature rambles, slide/film shows, snake shows, workshops, painting competition, essay competition training programmes and other activities.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROJECT SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman Dr. Shashi Menon
 Members Mr. Ramesh Dandekar
 Mr. P.V. Bole (Sp. Invitee)

Convenors Mr. Arvind Karandikar (Proj. Mgr.)
 Mr. T.K. Bharatan (Proj. Adm. Mgr.)

Activity Report

The three field teams conducted educational programmes in selected villages on identified issues, initially using available material from other sources. Later, based on their experience in the field, they initiated development of project's own educational material. This is being field tested. Results obtained till now are very encouraging.

Joint activities alongwith NGOs and individuals working in the project area were initiated in all the three field areas. In Gudalur about 20 NGOs have been brought together for formalising 'Network' specifically to handle environmental issues.

Trainings and Workshops

Trainings were conducted in development activities, communication techniques and production of educational aids like puppets, flannel talk.

Six staffs from the project team visited United Kingdom for two weeks in September 1994. The visit was organised by the RSPB. The team could study and analyse different interpretation techniques at centres in the UK.

The Project Co-ordinator and Project Field Manager spent about two weeks in the UK on invitation of the Overseas Development Administration (ODA) and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), visiting various interpretation centres and holding discussions with other organisations for possible new activities by the BNHS. They got good insight in centre management and good response from important

organisations like Royal Botanic Gardens.

Technical coordinator and a resource person from the RSPB came during the year. Draft of promotional plan for Conservation Education Centre has been prepared and circulated among experts for comments.

The local population including women in all the three project areas responded well to the educational programmes, meetings and discussions. Similarly, there has been good cooperation from the local forest officials, who participated in the project activities along with local NGOs.

From the experience of implementing the project, BNHS identified many areas where the RSPB experts can provide inputs through workshops and seminars. The BNHS senior scientists and members now take part in meetings and discussions for designing the education centre and other programme related aspects.

Conservation Education Centre

The frame structure was completed along with slabs and plastering in parts. Civil work will be completed by September 1995. Simultaneously, work on interiors and products of the Centre will be initiated in May 1995. It is hoped to have the Centre to be operational by the end of 1995 after which production, multiplication and dissemination of materials useful for educational activities will be taken up. These include brochures, educational kits, games, slide sets and booklets. All such materials have been designed to suit the specific needs of the Indian audience.

UNIVERSITY STUDIES SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman Dr. Jay Samant (Director)
 Members Mr. M.R. Almeida
 Prof. P V. Bole
 Dr. B.F. Chhapgar
 Mr. J.C. Daniel
 Mr. N. Chaturvedi (Curator)

Convenor Mr. Deepak Apte (Education Officer)

At present following students have registered for M.Sc. (by research) and Ph.D. in Zoology and Botany:

Name	Guide	Course
Ms. Hema Somnathan	Dr. Jay Samant	Ph.D. Zoology
Mr. Subash Mali	— " —	— " —
Mr. A.G. Sekar	— " —	— " —
Mr. A.S. Brar	— " —	— " —

Ms. Nikita Prakash	Mr. J.C. Daniel	M.Sc Zoology
Mr. Prakash Rao	— " —	Ph.D. — " —
Mr. N. C. Chaturvedi	— " —	— " —
Mr. Asad Akhtar	— " —	— " —

Ms. Deepika Bhardwaj	Dr. B. F. Chhapgar	M.Sc. — " —
Ms. Vidya Ullal	— " —	Ph.D. — " —

Mr. P.D. Vivek	Dr. R. B. Grubh	M.Sc. — " —
Mr. Alagar Rajan	— " —	Ph.D. — " —

Ms. V. Subhalakshmi	Mr. N. C. Chaturvedi	M.Sc. — " —

Ms. T. Sinh	Dr. Mrs. Almeida	Ph.D. Botany

Ph.D. in Zoology

Mr. Bharat Bhushan successfully completed Ph.D. in Zoology and the degree was awarded.

A circular on the M.Sc. (by research) and Ph.D. courses was sent to all the colleges in Bombay

and major research institutes all over India. A press release was also given. In response to this, 30 applications were received for both the courses, out of which following candidates were selected.

No.	Name	Guide	Course
1.	Yogesh Gokhale	M.R. Almeida	M.Sc. Botany
2.	Utkarsha Ghate	M.R. Almeida	M.Sc. Botany
3.	Ajay Gramopadhyay	Dr. R. Borges	M.Sc. Zoology
4.	Navneet Manj	Dr. R. Borges	M.Sc. Zoology
5.	B.S. Swamy	Dr. B.F. Chhapgar	Ph.D. Zoology
6.	Vivek Kulkarni	Dr. B.F. Chhapgar	Ph.D. Zoology

Diploma Course in Conservation Biology

This vocational course was successfully conducted at the BNHS. The course was coordinated by Nature Education Officer and Principal Scientist with help from faculty members and visiting experts. This intensive course, with 72 lectures and a seven day field visit to Melghat Tiger

Reserve covered various aspects of ecology, political issues involved in biological diversity conservation, protected area network, wildlife trade and sustainable development. The course was found to be ideal foundation to wildlife enthusiasts and students wishing to pursue post-graduate studies in ecology and environmental sciences.

LIBRARY SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman

Dr. Ashok Kothari

Members

Dr. B.F. Chhapgar

Ms. Mehru Dubash

Ms. Doreen D'sa

Mr. V.K. Paralkar

Mr. Vilas Shingre

Mr. N. Chaturvedi (Curator)

Mr. Isaac Kehimkar (PRO)

Convenor

Ms. Shubhangi Puradkar (Asst. Librarian)

This year altogether 2050 new titles were added to the library, including 505 books from late Dr. Salim Ali's collection, and 70 books purchased, 15 received for review and 1460 received as donation and complimentary. Eight new journals were subscribed bringing the total to 170 national and international journals that are received in the library. A majority of the journals are received in exchange for the Society's **Journal**. A revolving display rack was purchased to display the latest periodicals received in the library.

The objective of the library is to provide correct information from right the source to a person at the right time. However, with ever increasing collection of information, the retrieval of information has become more and more complex. Therefore, for efficient handling of information, a library management software package, SLIM was

purchased. Till date about 1000 titles have been computerized. To clear the backlog, a library assistant was appointed.

Every month, members and staff are informed of the new books received for approval and those added to the library. The list is displayed on the library notice board. Clippings of current news appearing in leading newspapers on natural history and conservation are displayed on the notice board.

As an insurance against loss and damage of library books, a deposit of Rupees 250.00 was introduced.

The Assistant Librarian attended a six-week training course on **Paper Conservation and Preventive Maintenance in Libraries**, organised by INTACH and Indian Conservation Institute at Lucknow.

RESEARCH AND COLLECTION SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman

Mr. M.R. Almeida

Members

Dr. Pratap Saraiya

Mr. K.P. Karamchandani

Dr. B.F. Chhapgar

Mr. J.C. Daniel

Dr. Shashi Menon

Dr. Rajendra Shinde

Mr. H. Abdulali (Invitee)

Dr. Renee Borges (Principal Scientist) till 8.4.1995

Mr. N. Chaturvedi (Curator)

Convenor

Mr. S.R. Nayak (Project Secretary)

COLLECTIONS

Post graduate students from various colleges in and around Bombay, from the J.N. University, Jodhpur, College of Agriculture, Dapoli and participants of the Refresher Course for zoology teachers visited the collections. They were told about the collection and preservation methods and use of collection for various purposes.

Minister of State for Environment and Forest, Govt. of India, Directors from the MOEF, Delhi, Director, Zoological Survey of India, visitors from organisations like Bombay Chartered Accountants' Society, ICICI, and IPS and IAS Wives' Association visited the collections. The collection was also referred to by members and scientists. Some of the prominent were Dr. Indra Neil Das, Mr. T.N. S. Murthy, Dr. K. K. Tiwari, Dr. K. Padhyan, University of Bradford, U.K., Dr. William Oliver, Conservation Officer, Jersey Wildlife Trust, Channel Islands and Dr. Dolttinger from Germany. Ms. Pamela Rasmussen of Smithsonian Institution, Washington visited the collections for reference. Assistance was given to Ms. Malvika Choudhary of Meerut University and Ms. Vidya Athreya in referring to the collections. Information on identification of dragonflies belonging to genus *Orthetrum*, and a key for identification of aquatic beetles were sent to students from Iran.

Identification

Photographs, specimens of plants and animals (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects) brought by members and research students were identified and information was given. 108 plant specimens received from the Grassland Project were identified. *Avicennia marina*, new secondary host plant was recorded for Teak Defoliator Moth, *Hyblaea puera*.

Additions

A specimen of Rusty Spotted Cat, *Felis rubiginosa* received from Shri Digveerendra Sinh was added to the collection. 688 Bird specimens donated by St. Xavier's College, Bombay from Br. Navarro's the collection were brought to The BNHS

were treated, registered and are kept separately. A specimen of Frigate Bird, *Fregata ariel iredalei* was added to the collection. 60 specimens of butterflies from the collection of Roger Ashton were also added to collections.

Computerisation

Computerisation of the specimens listing of mammals, plants, reptiles and amphibians was over. Bird specimens are being catalogued and has been completed up to pipits and wagtails.

Survey

Scientists of the section undertook a status survey of flora and fauna of Rajbhavan. Phase one of the survey commenced in January 1995 and was completed in March 1995. During the Survey, 117 species of plants, 36 species of birds, 32 species of butterflies and 12 species of molluscs were recorded.

Maintenance

The collections were checked periodically and specimens were treated where necessary. The collection rooms were painted with antifungal paint. Cupboards having mammal and bird collections were painted and wooden cupboards were polished. Three ultraviolet light baits were installed to prevent insect pests in collections.

Seminars and Workshops

Scientist in-charge, mammal section participated in the International Environmental Education Course conducted in the U.S. during which he also visited Florida Museum and Smithsonian Institution.

Scientist in-charge, herpetology section presented a paper in the National Seminar on Endangered Species held at Kanyakumari.

The Curator at the instance of University of Bombay gave a series of lectures on Taxonomy of Insects for M.Sc. (Part II) for entomology students.

The collection staff also assisted in conducting a diploma course in Conservation Biology.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT CELL

The EIA Cell had been set up with the intention of carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment projects and to undertake laboratory analysis of physico-chemical parameters of soil/water regimes. In India, EIA studies are linked to statutory clearances and the EIA Cell has, through meetings, correspondence with Department of Environment, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Industrial Associations and other EIA Agencies has succeeded in communicating the word to these and other peripheral agencies that we have now entered into this specialized field.

This being the inception year of the EIA Cell, much of the activity was focused on setting up the environmental analytical laboratory and developing its facilities in addition to communicating to various interest groups. We are hopeful of applied research (EA) projects materialising in 1995-96, indications of which have already been received by the BNHS from early 1995.

An Action Plan along with laboratory layout plan and other details for setting up of the EIA Cell has been prepared and submitted. Interaction with British Council Division and United States Asia Environment Programme (US-AEP) have been initiated and is ongoing for access to new EIA Legislations/Guidelines in the UK and the USA. Laboratory Instruments, chemicals, books and consumables have been acquired and/or repaired for the laboratory towards the establishment of a soil and water analytical laboratory. Analytical equipments have been put under service contracts. Guidelines for acceptance of EIA projects by industrial project proponents have been prepared.

General Terms of Reference for EIA projects have been prepared and list of parameters and analysis charges have been prepared for the laboratory. A.B. Inamdar, CRSE-IIT, has agreed to work with The BNHS in remote sensing applications for BNHS-EIA studies on a project-to-project basis.

Application for registration of the laboratory has been submitted to Bombay Municipal Corporation and Central Pollution Control Board. The EIA Cell has been registered by the British Council Division as part of the Working Group on EIA. There has been ongoing correspondence with bodies like UNEP, Asian Development Bank, World Bank, European Economic Community and University of Manchester, U.K. towards inclusion of the BNHS in different working/expert groups for EIA studies. Contacts have been established with other EIA agencies (towards collaborative work in EIA studies).

Following an invitation from the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB), Bombay, the EIA Scientist attended a MPCB-NGO meeting at MPCB HQ in May, to discuss the formation of a MPCB-NGO Cell at Maharashtra Pollution Control Board to disseminate EIA reports. A meeting to discuss the Environmental Impact Assessment Study of Bombay-Vadodara Expressway, at Collector's office, Thane was attended. IIIrd Gurudas Committee meeting at Mantralaya on the Century Rayon accident was attended in July to analyse technical causes of the accident and to suggest mitigating measures to prevent recurrence of such disasters.

RESEARCH

During the year 1994-95 the BNHS had eight major and minor research programmes.

Bird Hazard Research Cell: Identification of bird strike remnants and consultancy service to aerodrome officials was continued.

A project proposal for developing electro-

phoretic techniques for bird and bat strike remnants was approved for funding by the ARDB. The concerned scientist was deputed by the Director to visit New Delhi for discussion with funding authorities for extension.

Members of the high level committee of

ARDB visited Bombay and held a meeting with President, BNHS to discuss plans for continuation of bird hazard research by the BNHS. A suggestion was made for National Centre for Bird Hazard Research and Prevention to be set up at the BNHS.

Grassland Ecology Project: Studies were carried out at the following field stations: Nanaj, Sholapur (Maharashtra), Rollapadu (A.P.), Fuley Chhari (Kutch), Dahod (Gujarat), Velavadar (Gujarat) and Dudwa National Park (U.P.).

Studies were conducted on Indian Fox at Rollapadu. Permission to collar 10 foxes was granted by the forest department.

Avifauna studies were undertaken at Banni grasslands to determine the effect of severe drought condition during the year. Dry grasslands of Jaisalmer were surveyed. A rapid survey of alpine grassland in Sikkim was undertaken. US advisor Prof. Mark Behan and USFWS Co-ordinator Mr David Ferguson visited Aligarh for discussions.

Major Findings and Recommendations

At Nanaj (Solapur) bustard population has increased. Owing to our representation, plan to build a large spinning mill, very close to bustard breeding ground, was cancelled. Studies on wolf indicated their preference for livestock during breeding season and during non breeding season they prey on black buck. Blackbuck population has increased in Nanaj.

In Rollapadu after ten years protection, grassland biomass has increased, but species richness has decreased. Blackbuck population has increased from 17 in 1985 to 275 in 1995. Crop damage has become a major problem.

It is desirable to reduce blackbuck population to 100. Studies conducted on Fox indicated population fluctuation. From half a dozen in 1984 to 40 in 1994 then a sharp decline due to an epidemic in 1995.

Banni and Velavadar in Gujarat are invaded by *Prosopis juliflora*. Livestock demography has changed due to invasion of this plant. Habitat of Chinkara and Wolf has been destroyed, and feeding ground of wintering common cranes is under

increasing threat. We estimate that 40,000 common cranes winter in Banni.

Velavadar grassland is one of the best breeding ground of Lesser Florican. We estimate a population of 50 to 60 floricans.

In Thar desert there is nearly 50% drop in bustard population in last 10 years. This could be due to extensive poaching. Desert National Park is under increased threat due to a plan to build a canal. The bird diversity has shown an increase due to the Indira Gandhi Canal but local desert dwelling birds have declined. Chinkara population has recovered since mid 1980s. The Sultana grassland is badly damaged by mismanagement.

In the terai grassland of Dudhwa National park we found that invasion of weedy unpalatable lemon grass in the sort grass patches at higher elevation. This is due to the current management practice of annual burning. This has destroyed the grazing ground of Swamp deer. We suggest a combination of rotational burning and harvesting to control lemon grass.

Birds of Prey Project: Comments from USFWS were received on the draft final technical report.

The main objective of the Project was to obtain information on the distribution and numbers of resident raptors and assess conservation status of their population in the country.

Major Findings and Recommendations

A new species of raptor, Greyfaced Buzzard was added to the checklist of the raptors of the Indian subcontinent. Two species, namely Lesser Spotted and Lesser Fishing Eagles were found to be very rare. The Nicobar Serpent Eagle and Nicobar Sparrow Hawk which were never common were also found to be very rare. The range extensions of Crested Honey Buzzard and Amur Falcon in Andamans, Changeable Hawk Eagle and Besra Sparrowhawk in Nicobar, Rufousbellied Eagle and Eastern Marsh Harrier in Upper Gangetic Plains were recorded. The Amur Falcon was observed nesting in India for the first time after the year 1928 near Namdapha National Park, Arunachal

Pradesh. The nesting failure was recorded in Lesser Fishing eagle for three consecutive years in Corbett National Park due to suspected pesticide contamination.

General Recommendations were given for group of raptors in a particular habitat types as well as species specific recommendations were given for the rare raptors.

Giant Squirrel Project: Malabar Giant Squirrel is being studied in the Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary. To develop a management plan for the conservation of the species, an attempt will be made to address the specific objectives, viz. food selection, ranging patterns and relationship between food availability and reproductive success.

USFWS Coordinator Mr David Ferguson visited the BNHS to discuss the progress of the project with the Principal Investigator.

Ecology of Elephants: The term of the project was over in March 1994. Salim Ali Nature Conservation Fund sanctioned a grant to help the scientist to collect data for a further period of 9 months. Radio collars on the elephants are still active.

Major Findings and Recommendations

The study established that Home ranges of elephant clans had been grossly underestimated previously when telemetry was not available and emphasised that Sanctuary boundaries should follow ecological rather than administrative boundaries. The fact that elephants in sanctuaries receive from various degrees of protection as their ranges extend beyond protected areas has been clearly defined. The importance of corridors linking metapopulations has been clearly brought out. Conflict between man and elephants caused by encroachment into elephant territories and the fact

that elephants whose ranges have been encroached raid crops as they continue to use their territory and that management should consider these points when considering removing such trouble some elephants has been brought out. The food and habitat usage and the effect of selective removal of favoured food species on the forest structure was one of the main findings of the study.

The study on peripheral populations established that overuse by man and elephants degraded habitats rapid by making it impossible for such habitats to hold sustainable elephant population.

The study of isolated population at Dalma showed how a continuously degraded habitats is unable to sustain its elephant population leading to migration and enormous damage to both man and elephants. The study is a classic example of what could happen to small populations in habiting non-viable habitats.

Birds of Sriharikota: Research programme on this project concluded in June 1994. Field station was closed. Draft final technical report is under preparation.

Jerdon's Courser Project: The project started with the objective of surveying the avifauna of eastern ghats to establish status of the Jerdon's Courser. The scientist working on the survey has reported having seen five individuals of this rare species. The survey will continue for a further period of six months.

Study of Harriers: Velavadar National Park has an unusual concentration of roosting harriers, during the winter. Monitoring of this roost has been going on for the past 3 years during the winter season. The study is sponsored by Hawk & Owl Trust (U.K.).

SALIM ALI NATURE CONSERVATION FUND SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman

Dr. Pratap R. Saraiya (Vice President)

Members

Mrs. D.S. Variava (Vice President)

Mr. J.C. Daniel

Convenor

Mr. S. Asad Akhtar (Conservation Officer)

Conservation Issues were highlighted and the problems being faced by certain sanctuaries and protected areas which are threatened with unplanned development activities were discussed during a public meeting held in September 1994. The areas covered were **Narayan Sarovar Wildlife Sanctuary, Bhitar Kanika Wildlife Sanctuary, Balukhand-Konark Wildlife Sanctuary, Mangroves and the protected areas in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.** As a result of public discussions of critical environmental issues, certain areas like the Gulf of Kutch, Bhitar Kanika Wildlife Sanctuary, Narayan Sarovar, Chinkara Sanctuary and the Melghat Tiger Reserve were specifically surveyed. These surveys helped the BNHS to acquaint itself with the current ground realities in these localities. Certain issues like the controversy about the allotment of land in the Gir National Park which needed immediate attention were also addressed and a clarification obtained from the concerned authorities.

Environment and nature conservation workshops were also organised for the Armed Forces. This interaction with members of the armed forces is helping to bring about an attitudinal change vis-a-vis environmental awareness amongst the defence services.

A public meeting to highlight the implications

of the draft Forest Bill was also organised at Hornbill House. It generated a highly enlightened response from the members of the public, the forest department and experts in the field. A talk to highlight the ecological implications of the Sharavathy Valley Hydro Electric Project was also organised. At the local level ecological reconnaissance of the Powai lake area was initiated with a view to highlight its deteriorating condition in an appropriate forum. Networking with like-minded conservation oriented organisations has been initiated. It has generated a good response.

The Salim Ali Bird Count - 1994 was organised on 14th November. It received a fair response. Analysis of the count data is in progress, the analysis of the inaugural Salim Ali Bird Count - 1993 was completed and a final report submitted.

Requests for funding were received from different parts of the country, out of which funding was given to the following:

Elephant Radio Telemetry Studies at Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary	Rs. 20,000.00
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Grant to BHNS Scientist to attend Seminar on Endangered Fauna at Kanyakumari	Rs. 1,800.00
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Grant to Narmada Bachao Andolan	Rs 5,000.00
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VISITORS

Minister of State for Environment and Forests, Govt. of India, Directors from the MOEF; Delhi, Mr Sharad Kale, Commissioner, Bombay Municipal Corporation, Director, Zoological Survey of India, visitors from organisations like Bombay Chartered Accountants' Society, ICICI, and IPS and IAS Wives' Association visited the collections and library. The collections were also referred by some of the prominent scientists like Dr. Indra Neil Das, Dr. T.N.S. Murthy, Dr. K.K. Tiwari, Dr. K. Padhyan, University of Bradford, U.K., Dr. William Oliver, Conservation Officer, Jersey Wildlife Trust, Channel Islands,

Dr. Dolttinger from Germany and Ms. Pamela Rasmuesan of Smithsonian Institution, Washington.

Mr. Malcolm Whitehead, International Centre for Conservation Education, UK, Ms. Chris Skinner, Pulborough Brooks, RSPB, UK, Mr David Elcome, Head, Education Unit, RSPB, UK, Mr John Edmundson, First Secretary, Cultural Affairs, BCD-Bombay, Mr. A.K. Nigam, IFS, Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Western Region, Mr Johari, IFS, Mr. A R Bharati, Deputy Conservator of Forests, SGNP, 15 School Teachers from the German Embassy School, Bombay visited the Conservation Education Centre

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr. Jay Samant, Director visited United States to attend **Initiative in Environmental Protection in the US** under the US Information Agency's Visitors' Programme. This visit resulted in interaction with various American NGOs, National Park managers and heads of federal and state environmental agencies. He was also invited by the RSPB to visit their Conservation Interpretation Centres and Nature Reserves in the UK and Ireland. Additional visits were to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, Bradford University, Hawk and Owl Trust, Harrison Zoological Museum and Birdlife International.

Mr Naresh Chaturvedi, Curator gave lectures in entomology (insect taxonomy) to the M.Sc. (Part II) students at the Bombay University.

Publications:

1. Chaturvedi, N. (1994): New adult male attractants of Danaid butterflies. JBNHS 91:152-153.
2. Paralkar, V. K. & Chaturvedi, N. (1994): An unusual roosting site of the marsh harrier *Circus aeruginosus*. JBNHS 91:311.

Mr. A. G. Sekar, Scientist, Herpetology conducted a survey of Mahabaleshwar during the monsoon to study amphibian fauna. Presented a paper on the habitat of the amphibian fauna of the Kanyakumari district at the Seminar on Endangered Fauna of Kanyakumari District. A talk on the **Endangered species of herpetofauna** was given at the Conservation Biology Course conducted at Hornbill House.

Publications:

1. Sekar, A.G. and Almeida, M.R. (1994): Range extension of the Bombay Shield tail snake, *Uropeltis macrolepis*. JBNHS 90:520-21.
2. Sekar, A.G. (1994): Range extension of the Spotted Forest Gecko *Cyrtodactylus collegalensis collegalensis*. JBNHS 91:323-24.

Dr. (Mrs.) S. Unnithan, Scientist in-charge birds section gave talk to the members of Indo-Japanese Association and the Bombay Chapter of the Bonsai Study Group on attracting birds to gardens and how to keep off sparrows and pigeons.

Mr. Manoj Muni, Scientist, in-charge mammal section attended a specialised training course **International Environmental Education** at Front Royal, US. Visited Conservation Research Centre, Front Royal, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, Florida Museum of Natural History. At the University of Boston, a lecture on **Conservation of Bats in India** was given to the post-graduate students. Participated as speaker/instructor in the diploma course in Conservation Biology, where a seminar was given on **Present Status of Indian Mammals and Role of Museums in Conservation**. At the Teachers' Training Course lectures were delivered on the **Role of Teachers in Environmental Education and Use of Communication Strategies in the Field of Environmental Education**.

Publications:

1. Bates, P.J.J., Harrison, D.L. and Muni, Manoj (1994): The Bats of Western India revisited. Parts I, II and III. JBNHS 91:1-15; 224-40 and 360-80.
2. Bates, P.J.J., Harrison, D.L., Thomas, N.M. and Muni, Manoj (1994): The Indian Fruit Bat *Latidens salimalii* rediscovered in Southern India. Bonn zool. Beitr. 45:89-98.
3. Muni, Manoj, Kothari, A. and Bhiwgade, D.A. (1994): Occurrence of the Leaf-nosed Bat *Hipposideros lankadiva* in Ratnagiri District, Maharashtra. JBNHS 91:136.
4. Muni, Manoj (1994): Rarest of the rare - *Latidens salimalii*. Hornbill 1994:28-32.

Dr. C.R. Ajithkumar, Scientist A, Ecology of Grassland Project

Publication:

1. Ajithkumar, C.R. and Asthana, A. (1994): Circadian variation in the movement of fry in a feeder canal. JBNHS 91:194-202.

Mr. Satish Kumar, Sr. Research Fellow, Ecology of Grassland Project, was invited to participate in a conference **Wolves and Humans - 2000: Global Conflicts of Wolf Management** held in the University of Minnesota, USA. He presented a research paper **Strategies for Wolf Conservation in marginal areas of the Deccan, India**.

Mr. J. K. Tiwari, Junior Scientist, Ecology of Grassland Project.

Publications:

1. Tiwari, J.K.(1994): Unusual feeding behaviour of the grey musk shrew *Suncus murinus*. JBNHS 91:305
2. Tiwari, J.K. & Langha, A.O.(1994): A breeding record of the crested honey buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus ruficollis*. JBNHS 91: 310.

Mr Arvind Karandikar, Project Manager, Conservation Education Project, visited the United Kingdom along with the project team comprising of Ms Lima Rosalind, Research Officer, Dr Renu Kohli, Mr Manish Khodaskar, Mr Prashant Mahajan, Mr Shekar Shiveshwarkar and Mr Parag Mungle. During the training the team visited Pulborough Brooks, RSPB Reserve and Vistor Centre, Woodsmill, Sussex Wildlife Trust Centre and Arndel Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust Centre.

Dr Renu Kohli, Education Project Officer and Mr Manish Khodaskar, Education Project Officer presented two papers on **Communicating Conservation around Keoladeo National Park** at the Seminar on **Ecodevelopment, Habitat and Wildlife Conservation in Rajasthan** held at Kota, Rajasthan.

Mr Prashant Mahajan, Education Project Officer presented a paper on **Masinagudi group of villages - Biotic pressure, Conservation Education and Possible Alternatives** at the

seminar on **Ecological Concerns and Policy Issues as relevant to Nilgiris**.

Publications:

1. Rosalind, Lima.(1994): BNHS Role in Conservation of India's Natural History. AVEHI(Avehi Educational Media Magazine).

Mr. Alex Abraham, EIA Scientist delivered a lecture on the concept of EIA & the BNHS-EIA Cell to CEP project team and as faculty member for the Course on "Conservation Biology" at the BNHS, delivered lectures on Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Audit.

Submitted a paper on "Role of EIA in the protection of Biodiversity for the National Seminar on Wildlife Resources-Networking organised by MoEF & BNHS.

Symposia and Seminars attended:

1. Workshop on EIA organised by British Council Division, Bombay, July 1994.
2. Workshop on Economic Valuation of Air Pollution in Chembur, MEIP project, organised by IGIDR, Bombay, July 1994.
3. National Seminar on Environment and Development, organised by WWF-India & Chemtech Foundation, October 1994.
4. Training Programme on EIA Practice, organised by British Council Division, Lonavala, April 1995.
5. Brainstorming Workshop on Action Plans on EIA, sponsored by UNEP, MoEF, organised by Centre for Environmental Studies and Education (CESE), IIT, Bombay, May 1995.

Ms Shubhangi Puradkar, Assistant Librarian attended a six-week training course on "Paper Conservation and Preventive maintenance in Libraries" organised by the INTACH and Indian Conservation Institute at Lucknow. She was awarded the **Best Participant's Award**.

DONATIONS AND GRANTS

We are grateful to the following donors and well-wishers for the grants and donations to the Society.

MR. JAGGIT PAUL ALHUWALIA	1,501.00
MR. KILBER CORMACK	3,102.00
MR. SAM N. BAJAN	1,000.00
MR. B.G. DESHMUKH	2,000.00
MR. ROBERT FLEMING	1,543.00
FAZALBHOY FOUNDATION	5,000.00
G.O. JAIN & CO. (C.A.) RESEARCH DONATION	1,500.00
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DR. J.A. WOOLCOCK	2,889.00
MR. SUNIL RASHMIKUMAR ZAVERI	12,500.00
MRS. ANJANA R. ZAVERI	5,000.00
MRS. DIVYA SUNIL ZAVERI	5,000.00
M/S. RASHMI ZAVERI & CO.	10,000.00
ROYAL WESTERN INDIA TURF CLUB	1,68,827.00
GOVT. OF INDIA	50,000.00
(Dept. of Science & Technology)	
GOVT. OF MAHARASHTRA	2,50,000.00
(For maintenance of collections and building)	

WELL-WISHERS

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 DR. SUGATO CHAUDHARY
 VESPAR ENTERPRISES

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are grateful to the following persons for their assistance in various activities of the Society:

Mr Sudheer Agashe
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 Mr Navroz Behramfram
 Dr Renee Borges
 Mr J C Daniel
 Dr B Dasgupta
 Mrs V B Desmukh
 Mr Mihir Deware
 Mr Robert D'Souza
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 Dr Arun Joshi
 Mr Rahul Marathe

Maj. M. Maskar
 Mr Athul Mathur
 Mr Parag Mungale
 Mr N D Mulla
 Mr A K Nigam
 Dr Parvish Pandya
 Mr V K Paralkar
 Mr Shirish Pitale
 Mr Ulhas Rane
 Ms Lima Rosalind
 Mr Gulab Sakpal
 Dr. Jay Samant
 Mr Vivek Samant
 Mrs Ranjana Shah
 Mr Vilas Shingre
 Mr S Shiveshwarkar
 Mr T V Sowrirajan
 Ms Varsha Waghmare

The Executive Committee acknowledges with thanks the assistance given to the BNHS by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Wildlife and the Ministry of Defence of the Government of India, the United States Fish & Wildlife Service, Overseas Development Administration, UK, British Council Division, Bombay, the Government of Maharashtra, and the Charity Commissioner, Bombay. It also thanks the members and staff of the BNHS for their unstinted support in the various activities of the Society.

Dr Ashok Bhagwat
 Honorary Secretary

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1ST APRIL 1994 TO 31ST MARCH 1995

I have the pleasure to report on the 111th Annual General Meeting of the Society and the following points may be highlighted while considering the Accounts and the Auditor's Report for the year 1994-95.

1. During the year the Society has received the following major donations/grants :

- (A) The Tata Iron and Steel Co. Ltd (TISCO) has made a generous grant of Rs 20,00,000. The same has been utilised to create the TISCO Conservation Education, Awareness and Research Fund.
- (B) The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) has donated a munificent grant of Rs. 15,00,000. The same has been utilised to create the ICICI Environmental Research, Education and Awareness Fund.
- (C) Government of Maharashtra and the Royal Western India Turf Club have generously donated Rs 17,78,263 and Rs 1,68,327 respectively, for repairs and maintenance of Hornbill House and Collections.

2. I am happy to state that in response to Prof. P V Bole's, (Ex-President, BNHS), request at the AGM of 28th January 1993, Mr. Vasant Panse has included the Society as one of the largest beneficiary in his Will. He has already given a sum of Rs 1,00,002 out of his estate. I therefore request all of you to follow such noble examples and include our esteemed Society as some part of the beneficiary in your Will. The Society has undertaken to preserve all such copies of the Will.

3. The long promised and sanctioned grant from the Government of India for Air-conditioning grant is till date not forthcoming. The expenditure till date is Rs 16,56,103 approximately. A serious view of the same has to be taken and stern appropriate action needs to be taken. Similar is the case of recovery of Rs 1,00,000 for the Army Cell. Both the amounts are due from Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.

4. The Management Information System of the Society is now in force. Recently the Society undertook a major exercise in comparing budgeted expenditure and income for the year 1995-96 with the actual of half year. I am proud to state that no major deviations have been noted. Further as for last year, the strict budgetary controls with internal control and internal checks, are still enforced and strengthened.

5. The surplus of the Society would have been higher by Rs 2,30,800 had the said amount due from Government of Maharashtra and Rs 1,74,912 due for Nature Education Scheme from Government of Maharashtra not been written off. The same had to be written off as per the advice of the auditors as the same is over 3 years old. However, the Society is actively pursuing the grants from the Government of Maharashtra for the full value of the Reference Collections and for the upkeep and repairs of Hornbill House.

6. I regret to state that despite the best of efforts, the shortfall in terms of inadequate funding as reported last year still continues.

However, I am happy to state that our capital has increased by 23.45% which in actual forms amounts to Rs 33,90,113.

7. The Fund Raising Committee along with the Salim Ali Centenary Celebrations Committee have been merged together and all the members of the Executive Committee are members of the Fund Raising Committee. This is done specifically to effectively collect donations and to avoid overlaps of donors being approached for separate causes, within the members of the Committee. The Committee has till date received the funds or sanction orders of nearly 25 lakhs. The target amount during the Centenary Celebrations is, however, 50 lakhs which the Society is hopeful of receiving.

Sunil Zaveri
Honorary Treasurer

AUDITORS' REPORT

R: BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registration No. F-244 (Bom)

We have audited the attached Balance Sheet of the Society as at March 31st, 1995 and also the annexed Income & Expenditure Account for the financial year ended on that date and report that in our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us:

(a) the accounts are maintained regularly and in accordance with the provisions of the Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950, subject to the observation that as per the past practice separate Receipts and Payments Account has been drawn for the Nature Education Scheme and the same has not been incorporated in accounts of the Society. While referring to the observations made in para (a) of our last report dated 12th September, 1994, we observe that the grant from the government not forthcoming, a contribution of Rs.1,74,912.12 has been made by the Society to the said Scheme inter alia covering the accumulated deficit in the said Scheme. The said contribution, we understand, has been approved by the Executive Committee in its meeting held on 28th September 1995,

(b) the receipts and disbursements have been properly and correctly shown in the accounts, subject to the observation that as per the accounting practice adopted, grants from State Government and other sponsoring organisations are being accounted in anticipation of receipt of sanction letters based on the claims preferred/to be preferred. While referring to the observations made in para (b) of our last report dated 12th Sept. 1994 accompanying the statement of accounts for the year ended March 31, 1994, we observe that the following items so accounted in the earlier years still remain unrealised:

(i) Central Government (Ministry of Environment & Forests) Grant for Air-conditioning of Reference Collections Room and Library

Rs. 8,63,707.46

(ii) Government of India (Ministry of Environment & Forests)
Grant for Nature Conservation
Courses for Indian Army Rs.1,00,000.00

We observe that in the case of Central Government grant for Air-conditioning of reference collections room and library, expenditure of Rs.3,30,263.91 out of the expenditure incurred during the year towards electric charges and maintenance of air conditioning system has been treated as recoverable by way of grant. Thus the aggregate amount of grant accounted as recoverable amounts to Rs.11,93,971.37 as at the date of Balance Sheet. In the case of the Nature Conservation Course for Army, we observe that by the date of Balance Sheet, the Society has already spent a sum of Rs. 69,204/- in that behalf out of its own funds. Incidentally, we may point out that a sum of Rs.2,30,804/- which had been accounted as income in the year 1991-92, as grant recoverable from Maharashtra State Government had to be written back during the year, as the anticipated receipt did not materialise. We are not in a position to offer any comments about the realisability of the aforesaid outstanding dues. We reiterate our views that the income of such nature be recognised as income, when there is no uncertainty about its realisation,

(c) the cash balance and the vouchers in the custody of the accountant on the date of audit were in agreement with the books of accounts,

(d) the books, deed, accounts, vouchers and/or other documents or records required by us were produced to us,

(e) the register of movable and immovable properties has been maintained. However, the changes therein have remained to be communicated to the Regional Office. In the context of equipments and other such items of

capital nature acquired out of various grants and other project funds, we observe that initially the cost of such equipments, etc. is charged to the relevant project accounts and on completion of the projects, the Society generally seeks the permission of the concerned sponsoring authorities to retain such assets, as are found to be useful for other projects and/or other purposes and on obtaining such approvals the necessary entries are passed in the books of accounts to record the residual value of such items. In this context we also wish to refer to the observations made in para (i) hereinbelow in respect of the expenditure towards erection of the Conservation Education Centre. While referring to the observations made in our aforesaid last report we observe that the value of a Jeep, so retained, still remains to be brought into account. In the absence of adequate information, it has not been possible for us to verify if the value of all the items allowed to be retained has been brought into accounts.

We further observe that a vehicle, which had been retrieved from certain projects completed in some earlier year has been disposed off during the year and the proceeds of Rs.69,000/- (net) has been credited to Fixed Assets Account. An expenditure of Rs.48,939/- incurred during the year on major overhauling of a vehicle (which had been so retrieved from certain project), in order to put it in proper working condition for the purpose of the Society has been capitalised.

We also understand that the Society is holding a number of "medals" of different precious and semiprecious metallic contents, which were awarded to late Dr. Salim Ali and which under his Will have been obtained by the Society. The same, we are informed, are being held as commemorative souvenirs. The value thereof, has not been brought into accounts as it is contended that the said Souvenirs being of aesthetic and sentimental value and commemorative nature, can not be reduced to monetary value,

- (f) the Hon. Treasurer and the Accountant appeared before us and furnished the necessary information required by us.
- (g) We are not aware of any property or funds of the Society having been applied for any objects or purpose other than the objects of the Society,
- (h) the following amounts were outstanding for more than one year :

— Dues towards supplies & services		55,162.95
— Loans to staff		14,125.00
— Advances for Expenses (for projects & other expenses):		
Employees (including ex.employees)		
Others	31,259.45	
	<u>12,397.00</u>	43,656.45
— Other dues		10,143.50
— Grants receivable:		
From Government of India		8,63,707.46
		1,00,000.00
— Suspense Account	1,570.25	
— Income tax refundable	11,279.00	

In the context of the aforesaid outstanding of Rs.31,259.45 representing advance to the employees we understand that it includes Rs.26,264.45 due from three persons, who are no longer in the employment of the Society. Of the said amount Rs.24,453.45 has since been recovered, leaving a balance of Rs.1,811/- which is proposed to be adjusted against other dues payable to the concerned ex.employee. The advances to others include Rs.7,397/- paid to certain persons for certain projects, of which Rs.2,397/- has since been adjusted. It will be appreciated, if proper account is obtained for the balance advance and the account is appropriately adjusted. The advances to others also include Rs.5,000/- paid to a printing press, which has remained to be adjusted pending

settlement of their bill. The other dues represent the expenditure incurred in connection with certain projects which is sought to be recovered from the concerned organisations. We are not in a position to express any opinion about the realisability of the said dues. In regard to balance in Suspense Account we suggest that effective steps be taken to recover the amount and clear the balance in Suspense account.

During the year the following amounts have been written off:

— Dues from Bihar	
State Government	Rs. 6,534.00
— Dues towards supplies & services	
	Rs.23,627.75

It may however, be pointed out that the amount of Rs.23,627.75 has been debited to Income from other sources from Greeting Cards and Calendars of the current year instead of being charged to bad debts written off. The amounts so written off may also be confirmed in the next meeting of the Executive Committee. In this context, we also wish to refer to the observations made in para (b) hereinabove in regard to the write back of the grant from State Government. We have been informed that the other outstanding balances are considered good and recoverable,

- (i) during the year under report a sum of Rs. 9,02,427.55 was spent on repairs to the Hornbill Building. We have been informed that limited enquiries were floated and based on the estimates received work was awarded to one of the contractors. Besides, we observe that during the year under report a sum of Rs.29,75,855/- has been spent on construction of Conservation Education Centre at Goregaon Centre at Goregaon (E), bringing the total cost of construction to Rs.32,35,982/- till the date of Balance Sheet. We understand that tenders were invited for the said construction work and the work was entrusted to one of the contractors on the recommendations of the architect. The said amount stands charged to the Conservation Education Project as shown in Schedule "C"

attached to the Balance Sheet. We are informed that the grant had been received for the purpose of erection of the Conservation Education Centre. In so far as the said outlay is on a property which would form part of the properties & assets of a permanent nature of the Society, it would be more appropriate to reflect the said outlay as construction work in progress and the amount spent be transferred from the relevant fund a/c. to 'Fixed Asset Fund Account' or 'Grant Utilisation Account'. The procedure being followed merits reconsideration.

- (j) we are not aware of any money of the Society having been invested in contravention of Sec. 35 of the Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950,
- (k) we are not aware of any immovable property of the Society, therefore, the question of alienation of any property contrary to the provisions of Sec. 36 of the Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950 does not arise,
- (l) i) in regard to the expenses charged to various grants and funds we have relied on the information given to us and the authentication of the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer that the expenses so charged relate to these grants and have been spent on the specific objects for which the grants were received. While checking the statement of accounts in regard to the expenditure incurred at various camps, we have relied on the authorisation by the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, as to the reasonableness of the expenditure. In this context we observe that during the year a sum of Rs.8,86,236/- had been received from the Maharashtra State Government (as special Charity Race meeting) grant. The said amount together with the unutilised grant of Rs.8,92,000/- brought forward from the earlier year has been credited to Income & Expenditure account of the year under report. It has been explained to us that the said amount has been utilised for the following purposes:

— Repairs to Hornbill House	Rs. 9,02,427.55
— Repairs to Electric fittings	Rs. 2,30,000.00
— Salaries of Reference collection and maintenance Staff (other than met out of other grant)	Rs. 3,82,521.25
— Reference collection Expenses (including electricity charges for air conditioning system of reference room other than that met out of other grants)	Rs. 3,12,559.81
	<u>Rs.18,27,508.61</u>

On perusal of the sanction letters for the said grant, we observe that the said grants were sanctioned to the Society to enable it to maintain and up-keep the collection of natural history material. It is contended that the above expenses were necessary for the said purpose.

- ii) while on the above subject, we observe some of the local field workers, whose services were engaged for one of the projects at Bharatpur, are claiming reinstatement and other service benefits, which is being disputed by the Society. The contingent liability in this regard remains undeterminate. The matter, we are informed, is pending before the Labour Court at Bharatpur and Provident Fund authorities. A provision of Rs.1,94,060.70 has been retained in the accounts in this behalf. The liability has not been determined on actuarial basis,
- iii) the income towards membership subscription is being accounted on realisation basis,
- iv) we are given to understand that on physical verification of the fixed assets certain items were found to be lying with some members for research/study purpose. We suggest that proper records in this regard may be maintained and year end confirmation be obtained from such borrowing members,
- v) we suggest the following items of disbursements effected, appropriations made and administrative charges levied be confirmed

and ratified at the next meeting of the Executive Committee:

A. DISBURSEMENT FROM:

(i)	Salim Ali Nature Conservation Fund	Rs.
	Investment Revenue Account	2,12,283.64
(ii)	Salim Ali Memorial Fund	12,839.50
(iii)	Staff Gratuity Fund	1,12,669.00
(iv)	Ministry of Defence, ARDB for Bird Hazard Research Cell	74,663.75
(v)	Department of Space, Ecological Investigation of Avian Community of Shriharikota	23,541.90
(vi)	Elephant Telemetry Projects	34,194.30
(vii)	Ministry of Environment & Forests - Nature Conservation Course for Indian Army	12,761.60
(viii)	Grants from United States, Department of Interior, Fish & Wild Life Service for:	Rs.
	(a) Ecology of Dry Grassland	12,72,740.25
	(b) Study of Conservation of Birds of Prey with particular emphasis upon restoration of Endangered Species	34,042.50
(ix)	Hawk & Owl Trust - Grassland & Roosting Harriers	50,343.85
(x)	Endangered Turtles of Pondicherry	110.60
(xi)	Wetland, Mangrove & Coral Reefs in India (UNDP)	13,299.75
(xii)	Smithsonian Institution, Washington for revision of Handbook of the Birds of India & Pakistan	892.85
(xiii)	Grant for Chilka Lake Project	2,931.70
(xiv)	Conservation Education Project	54,67,677.87
(xv)	Govt. of India for Seminar on N.G.O.	69,282.00
(xvi)	Department of Science & Technology NCSTC - for Publication of Hornbill Series	22,544.00
B. APPROPRIATIONS		
1.	Proposed Institution	1,00,000.00
2.	Staff Welfare Fund	25,000.00
3.	Charles McCann Vertebrate Zoology Fieldwork Fund	600.00
4.	Fixed Assets Fund towards depreciation on Fixed Assets	4,49,664.11

C.	Administrative Fees charges to various Grants/Funds for handling the projects, etc.	5,69,988.56
D.	Addition to Fixed Assets	3,93,619.01
E.	Amount drawn out of funds:	
	- For Nature Conservation	2,12,283.64
	- For Gratuity Payment	1,12,669.00
	- For Depreciation	4,49,664.11
	- For Beautification of Dr.Salim Ali Chowk	12,839.50

Rs.

- Publication Fund (John Gould Paintings)	1,00,000.00
- For Staff Medical Expenses (Staff Welfare Fund)	17,155.95
- From General Reserve Fund (for various expenses)	65,000.00
- ICICI Environment Research & Education Fund	1,12,291.68
- TISCO Conservation Education, Research & Awareness Fund	77,479.44

While on the subject, we observe that unlike the past practice, administrative fees for handling the projects have not been charged in respect of the projects relating to certain specific funds. No explanation has been furnished for the said change in practice. We therefore, suggest that the said change in the procedure may be confirmed in the next meeting of the Executive Committee. We also observe, that by the end of the year under report the following projects were completed and the accounts thereof reflect the over run position as under:

Ministry of Defence (ARDB) for Bird Hazard Research Cell	37,278.54
Elephant Telemetry Project	21,074.15

Smithsonian Institution, Washington for revision of **Handbook of the Birds of India & Pakistan**". 284.08

The above balances may be appropriately adjusted, if the same be not likely to be recouped from grant/donation. We are in a position to comment on its realisability.

vi) We observe that the contribution to Employees' Provident Fund (both the employees and management contribution) continues to be deposited with the Trustees of a recognised Provident Fund established by the Society and governed by the rules framed for the purpose. There seems to have been certain amendments to the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, where under the Society may be considered to be liable not only to transfer the accumulated balance in the Employees' Provident Fund Account, to the Provident Fund Commissioner, Government Scheme, but also for the difference in the amount of contribution. The liability in this regard remains undeterminate. We suggest that proper legal opinion may be sought in this regard and needful may be done in the matter.

vii) In the context of the foreign contributions by way of grant/donations, etc. being received by the Society, we wish to invite attention to the requirements of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976, and the rules framed thereunder and suggest that the compliance thereof may be ensured, particularly in regard to the submission of the prescribed returns to the department concerned,

- (m) so far as it is ascertainable from the books of accounts and according to the information and explanation furnished to us by the Hon. Treasurer and the Hon. Secretary, there were no cases of irregular, illegal or improper expenditure or failure to recover the moneys or other properties belonging to the Society or loss or waste of money or other property of the Society, subject to the observations made in para (h) hereinabove,
- (n) provisions of Section 31-A of the Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950 and Rule 16-A of the Rules framed under the said Act have been complied with,

- (o) the maximum and minimum number of Executive Committee Members is maintained having regard to the provisions in the Rules and Regulations of the Society,
- (p) there is no specific provisions in the Rules and Regulations of the Society regarding the holding of the meetings of the Executive Committee,
- (q) the minute book recording the proceedings of the meetings is maintained,
- (r) no member of the Executive Committee has any interest in the investment of the Society,
- (s) no member of the Executive Committee is a debtor or creditor of the Society, subject to the observation that a sum of Rs.2,397/- given as an advance for expenses to a member had been outstanding as at the date of the Balance Sheet, but has since then been adjusted,
- (t) there were no irregularities pointed out in our last report dated 12/09/94 accompanying the statement of accounts for the year ended March 31, 1994 except the observations made in paras (e), (h) and (l)(v), the observations whereof have been reiterated hereinabove to the extent the issues remain still outstanding.

PLACE: BOMBAY
DATED: 30TH SEP, 1995

HABIB AND COMPANY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
BOMBAY PUBLIC TRUST ACT, 1950 : REGISTRATION NO. F-244 (BOM)
SCHEDULE VIII VIDE RULE 17(1)
BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1995

Previous year 1993-94 Rs.	FUNDS AND LIABILITIES	Current Year 1994-95 Rs.	Previous year 1993-94 Rs.	PROPERTIES AND ASSETS	Current Year 1994-95 Rs.
	LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND			INVESTMENTS (AT COST)	
	(INDIVIDUALS)			5.5% Govt of India Loan 2000	2,000.00
18,30,325.16	Balance as per Last Balance Sheet	19,90,515.12	2,000.00	of the Face Value Rs. 2000/-	
1,60,189.96	Add: Received during the year	2,00,700.00		Market Value Rs. 1,380/-)	
19,90,515.12				8530 Units of Unit Trust of India	
		21,91,215.12		Under CRTS 1981	
			8,53,000.00	of the Face Value Rs.100/- Each	8,53,000.00
				(Repurchase Value Rs. 9,98,010.00)	
	CORPORATE LIFE			4940 Units of Unit Trust of India	
	MEMBERSHIP FUND			Under CRTS 1981	
2,25,742.31	Balance as per last Balance Sheet	2,25,742.31	4,94,000.00	of the Face Value Rs.100/- Each	4,94,000.00
				(Repurchase Value Rs. 5,77,980.00)	
	VICE PATRON FUND			4770 Units of Unit Trust of India	
42,769.00	Balance as per last Balance Sheet	42,769.00		Under CRTS 1981	
			4,77,000.00	of the Face Value Rs.100/- Each	4,77,000.00
				(Repurchase Value Rs. 5,58,090.00)	
25,36,287.97	As Per Schedule 'A'	25,36,687.97			
	CORPUS FUNDS			4850 Units of Unit Trust of India	
96,60,244.63	As Per Schedule 'B'	1,28,49,257.61		Under CRTS 1981	
			4,85,000.00	of the Face Value Rs.100/- Each	4,85,000.00
				(Repurchase Value Rs. 5,67,450.00)	
	OTHER FUNDS			70150 Units of Unit Trust of India	
38,31,762.12	For Unspent Grants		9,99,637.50	Under Unit Scheme 1964	
6,74,210.44	as per Schedule 'C'			of the Face Value Rs.10/- Each	
8,200.00	For Expenses	60,90,115.92		(Repurchase Value Rs. 10,90,832.50)	
50,573.31	For Library Deposits	3,61,851.32			
30,426.11	For Sundry Credit Balances	31,200.00			
	For Advances for Publications	33,299.10			
	and Products	30,256.11			
45,95,171.98			7,00,000.00	50,000 Units of Unit Trust of India	
		65,46,722.45		Under US 1964 Plan	
				of the Face Value of Rs. 10 Each	
				(Repurchase Value Rs. 7,77,500)	
			40,08,637.50	Carried forward	
1,90,50,731.01	Carried over	2,43,92,394.46	2000.00	Carried over...	2000.00

Previous year 1993-94 Rs.	FUNDS AND LIABILITIES		Current Year 1994-95 Rs.		Previous year 1993-94 Rs.		PROPERTIES AND ASSETS		Current Year 1994-95 Rs.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,90,50,731.01	Brought Over		2,43,92,394.46		2000.00		Brought over		2000.00	
	OTHER LIABILITIES				40,08,637.50		Brought forward		40,08,637.50	
Nil	Professional Tax	815.00			13,440.00		1200 Units of Unit Trust of India		Nil	
Nil	Employees Provident Fund	2,150.00					Under US 1964 Plan			
Nil	T.D.S.	6,014.00					of Face Value Rs. 10/- each			
Nil	L.I.C. Gratuity	35,801.00			Nil		10000 Units of Unit Trust of India		1,48,000.00	
Nil			44,780.00				under US 1964 Plan			
							(Repurchase Value Rs. 1,55,500.00)			
	INCOME &				Nil		14030 Units of Unit Trust of India		2,07,644.00	
	EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT						Under US64 Plan			
84,410.86	Balance as per last Balance Sheet	1,10,911.99					(Repurchase Value Rs. 2,18,166.50)			
Nil	Less: Appropriation towards									
	proposed institute fund	1,00,000.00			6,22,080.00		48600 Units of Unit Trust of India		Nil	
84,410.86		10,911.99					under US 1964 of Face value Rs. 10/-			
26,501.13	Add: Excess of income over	1,568.78			Nil		each. (Repurchase value Rs. 7,53,730.00)			
1,10,911.99	expenditure during the year		12,480.77				100000 Units of MIP 94 (III)		10,00,000.00	
							of Unit Trust of India			
							(Earmarked specifically against			
							ICICI Environmental			
							Research & Education Fund).			
							50000 Units of Unit Trust of India		5,00,000.00	
							under MIP 94 (II).			
							(Earmarked specifically against			
							ICICI Environmental Research &			
							Education Fund).			
									58,64,281.50	
							Fixed Deposits with			
							Housing Development Finance		15,00,000.00	
							Corporation Ltd.			
							ICICI		5,00,000.00	
							IDBI		5,00,000.00	
							Indian Oil Corporation		20,00,000.00	
							(Earmarked specifically against TISCO			
							Conservation Edn. & Awareness Fund)			
							Steel Authority of India		10,00,000.00	
									55,00,000.00	
1,91,61,643.00	Carried over ...		2,44,49,655.23		25,00,000.00		Carried over...		1,13,66,281.50	
					71,46,157.50					

Previous year 1993-94 Rs.	FUNDS AND LIABILITIES	Current Year 1994-95 Rs.	Previous year 1993-94 Rs.	PROPERTIES AND ASSETS	Current Year 1994-95 Rs.
1,91,61,643.00	Brought over...	2,44,49,655.23	71,46,157.50	Brought over...	1,13,66,281.50
				VEHICLES	
			25,962.74	Balance As Per Last Balance Sheet	3,92,755.62
			4,65,000.00	Add: Major Repairs of Vehicles	48,939.00
			4,90,962.74		4,41,694.62
			18.22	Less: W.D.V. of vehicle sold	Nil
			4,90,944.52		4,41,694.62
			98,188.90	Less: Depreciation during the year	88,367.53
			3,92,755.62		3,53,327.09
				FURNITURE, FIXTURES & EQUIPMENTS	
			18,89,007.79	Balance As Per Last Balance Sheet	25,45,691.57
			10,20,354.00	Add: Additions during the year	3,44,680.01
			29,09,361.79		28,90,371.58
			3,63,670.22	Less: Depreciation during the year	3,61,296.58
			25,45,691.57		25,29,075.00
				LOANS	
			1,03,479.00	(Unsecured Considered Good)	1,43,625.00
				ADVANCES	
			4,65,539.05	To Employees	
				(For project & other expenses)	60,636.90
			1,81,206.76	To Others	
				(For Project & Other Expenses)	2,00,064.89
			15,000.00	Against Journal Papers	80,160.00
			4,956.00	Adv. against salaries to employees	800.00
			36,500.00	Adv. against equipment	Nil
			1,51,353.37	Dues from Nature Education Scheme	Nil
			4,500.00	Advance for rent	4,500.00
			1,25,000.00	Computer Maintenance	93,623.00
			Nil	Other dues for travel & other expenses	76,853.45
			9,84,055.18		5,16,638.24
1,91,61,643.00	Carried over...	2,44,49,655.23	1,11,72,138.87	Carried over...	1,49,08,946.83

Previous year 1993-94 Rs.	FUNDS AND LIABILITIES	Current Year 1994-95 Rs.	Previous year 1993-94 Rs.	PROPERTIES AND ASSETS	Current Year 1994-95 Rs.
1,91,61,643.00	Brought over...	2,44,49,655.23	1,11,72,138.87	Brought over...	1,49,08,946.83
				DEPOSITS	
			77,270.00	BEST Undertaking	77,831.00
			15,000.00	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	59,982.00
			11,000.00	P & T Dept. for Project Telephone.	Nil
			1,000.00	NCST for Electronic Mailing	1,000.00
			9,850.00	Gas Cylinder for Projects	6,850.00
			561.00	Elec. Deposit for Projects	Nil
			2,500.00	For Vehicle Fuel Supply	2,500.00
			420.15	For Franking Machine	401.80
			2,28,396.00	For Accommodation	2,28,396.00
			50.00	For Burner	50.00
			40,000.00	Security Deposit (CEP)	90,000.00
			Nil	Tata Sumo Vehicle	20,000.00
			<u>3,86,047.15</u>		<u>4,87,010.80</u>
				STOCKS	
				As Per Inventories Valued and	
				Certified by the Hon. Secretary	
			14,03,907.82	BNHS Publications	7,29,831.55
			1,42,857.00	Govt Publications	34,405.93
			98,946.00	Greeting Cards	2,05,577.00
			1,760.00	BNHS T Shirts	11,300.00
			2,632.00	BNHS Mugs	2,303.00
			7,258.00	BNHS Caps	5,539.00
			4,439.00	BNHS bags	3,860.00
			5,788.75	BNHS stickers	5,663.75
			<u>16,67,588.57</u>		<u>9,98,480.23</u>
				Books under Publication	
				(Expenses Incurred Till Date)	
			1,70,625.00	Book of Indian Birds revised	1,82,725.00
				Edition	63,444.60
			Nil	Flora of Keoladeo National Park	
			<u>1,70,625.00</u>		<u>2,46,169.60</u>
			<u>1,33,96,399.59</u>	Carried over...	<u>1,66,40,607.46</u>
1,91,61,643.00	Carried over...	2,44,49,655.23			

Previous year 1993-94 Rs.	FUNDS AND LIABILITIES	Current Year 1994-95 Rs.	Previous year 1993-94 Rs.	PROPERTIES AND ASSETS	Current Year 1994-95 Rs.
1,91,61,643.00	Brought over...	2,44,49,655.23	1,91,61,643.00	Brought over...	2,43,91,018.46
				UNADJUSTED DEFICIT ON PROJECTS	
				(a) Ministry of Defence (ARDB)	
			Nil	for BHRC	37,278.54
			Nil	(b) Elephant Telemetry Project	21,074.15
			Nil	(c) Smithsonian Inst., Washington	
				for revision of the Handbook of	
				Birds of India and Pakistan.	284.08
					58,636.77
					<u>2,44,49,655.23</u>
	Total Rs.	<u>2,44,49,655.23</u>	<u>1,91,61,643.00</u>		
<u>1,91,61,643.00</u>					

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE

Sd/-
HONORARY SECRETARY

Bombay

Sd/-
HONORARY TREASURER

Sd/-
HABIB & COMPANY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH 1995****SCHEDULE A : CORPUS FUNDS**

Name of the Corpus Fund	Balance As per last Balance Sheet	Amounts Received/ Appropriated during the year	Total of Columns 1 & 2	Balance as on 31-3-1995
	1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Sálim Ali Nature Conservation Fund	20,81,668.45	400.00	20,82,068.45	20,82,068.45
Sálim Ali / Loke Wan Tho Ornithological Research Fund	4,03,136.52	Nil	4,03,136.52	4,03,136.52
Pirojsha Godrej Foundation Fieldwork Fund	40,000.00	Nil	40,000.00	40,000.00
Col. Burtons Nature Conservation Fund	11,483.00	Nil	11,483.00	11,483.00
Total Rs.	25,36,287.97	400.00	25,36,687.97	25,36,687.97

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH 1995
SCHEDULE B : OTHER FUNDS

Name of the other fund	Balance As Per Last Balance Sheet	Amount Recd/ during the year	Interest Credited during the year	Total of Columns 1, 2 & 3	Transferred to Income & Expenditure Account during the year	Expenditure on objects of Trust/ other exps. as shown in Income & Exp. account	Balance as on 31-3-1995
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Sálim Ali Nature Conservation Fund Investment Revenue Account	2,79,813.45	Nil	2,08,166.84	4,87,980.29	2,12,283.64	2,12,283.64	2,75,696.65
Sálim Ali Loke Wan Tho Ornithological Fund Investment Revenue Account	1,47,293.40	Nil	40,313.65	1,87,607.05	Nil	Nil	1,87,607.05
Pirojsha Godrej Foundation Fieldwork Fund Investment Revenue Account	11,350.49	Nil	4,000.00	15,350.49	Nil	Nil	15,350.49
Col. Burton Nature Conservation Fund Investment Revenue Account	5,487.17	Nil	1,148.30	6,635.47	Nil	Nil	6,635.47
Charles McCann Vertebrate Zoology Fieldwork Fund	93,226.61	600.00	9,322.66	1,03,149.27	Nil	Nil	1,03,149.27
Plant Study Fund	43,774.80	Nil	Nil	43,774.80	Nil	Nil	43,774.80
Education & Research Fund Created Out of Income	51,762.76	Nil	Nil	51,762.76	Nil	Nil	51,762.76
Chacko Fund For Education And Conservation	37,559.70	Nil	Nil	37,559.70	Nil	Nil	37,559.70
Sálim Ali Memorial Fund	24,87,181.99	1,00,000.00	Nil	25,87,181.99	12,839.50	12,839.50	25,74,342.49
Publication Fund - BNHS	17,13,787.72	41,899.73	Nil	17,55,687.45	1,00,000.00	1,00,000.00	16,55,687.45
Publication Fund From Govt of India Dept of Science & Technology	6,29,132.58	Nil	Nil	6,29,132.58	Nil	Nil	6,29,132.58
Fixed Assets Fund	13,91,349.15	69,000.00	Nil	14,60,349.15	4,49,664.11	4,49,664.11	10,10,685.04
Building Fund	5,03,227.68	Nil	Nil	5,03,227.68	Nil	Nil	5,03,227.68
Carried over...	73,94,947.50	2,11,499.73	2,62,951.45	78,69,398.68	7,74,787.25	7,74,787.25	70,94,611.43

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH 1995
SCHEDULE B : OTHER FUNDS

	Balance As Per Last Balance Sheet	Amount Recd/ during the year	Interest Credited during the year	Total of Columns 1, 2 & 3	Transferred to Income & Expenditure Account during the year	Expenditure on objects of Trust/ other exps. as shown in Income & Exp. account	Balance as on 31-3-1995
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Brought over....							
ICICI Environmental Research and Education Fund.	Nil	15,00,000.00	1,12,291.68	16,12,291.68	1,12,291.68	1,12,291.68	15,00,000.00
TISCO Conservation Education Research and Awareness Fund	Nil	20,00,000.00	77,479.44	20,77,479.44	77,479.44	77,479.44	20,00,000.00
General Reserve Fund	9,33,638.22	Nil	Nil	9,33,638.22	65,000.00	65,000.00	8,68,638.22
Staff Gratuity Fund	1,72,067.81	35,801.00	Nil	2,07,868.81	1,12,669.00	1,12,669.00	95,199.81
Staff Welfare Fund	3,05,717.34	3,373.00	25,000.00	3,34,090.34	17,155.95	17,155.95	3,16,934.39
Donation From Seth Purshotamdas Thakurdas & Divaliba Charitable Trust For Publication of Tree Book	75,000.00	Nil	Nil	75,000.00	Nil	Nil	75,000.00
Proposed Institute Fund	7,78,873.76	1,00,000.00	20,000.00	8,98,873.76	Nil	Nil	8,98,873.76
Total	96,60,244.63	38,50,673.73	4,97,722.57	1,40,08,640.93	11,59,383.32	11,59,383.32	1,28,49,257.61

Summary of Expenditure From Funds/Donations

Expenditure Head	Amount	Amount Rs.
Expenses on Objects:		
Nature Conservation	2,12,283.64	
Environmental Education and Research	1,12,291.68	
Conservation Education, Research and Awareness	77,479.44	
Publication Fund BNHS	1,00,000.00	
		5,02,054.76
Others:		
Miscellaneous		
Beautification of Dr. Salim Ali chowk	12,839.50	
Gratuity to staff	1,12,669.00	
Depreciation	4,49,664.11	
For various expenses	65,000.00	
for staff welfare	17,155.95	
		6,57,328.56
		11,59,383.32

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH, 1995
SCHEDULE C : GRANTS

Name of the Grant	Balance as per last Balance Sheet	Amount Recd./ Receivable during the year	Total of columns 1 & 2	Transferred To Income & Expenditure Account during the year	Expenditure On Objects of Trust / Other Exps. as shown in Income & Exp. Account	Balance as per 31-3-1995
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
GRANTS FROM GOVT. OF INDIA						
Ministry of Defence, ARDB For Bird Hazard Research Cell	37,385.21	Nil	37,385.21	74,663.75	74,663.75	(37,278.54)
Elephant Telemetry Project	13,120.15	Nil	13,120.15	34,194.30	34,194.30	(21,074.15)
Ecology of Jerdon's Courser	49,000.00	44,000.00	93,000.00	59,403.65	59,403.65	33,596.35
Dept. of Science & Technology For Publication of Tree Book.	51,873.10	Nil	51,873.10			51,873.10
Dept. of Space: Ecological Investi- gation of Avian Community of Sriharikota	6,681.40	50,655.00	57,336.40	23,541.90	23,541.90	33,794.50
Dept. of Science & Technology NCSTC - For publications of Hornbill Series	2,40,000.00	Nil	2,40,000.00	22,544.00	22,544.00	2,17,456.00
Ministry of Environment & Forests Nature Conservation Course Indian Army Ministry of Defence	43,557.60	Nil	43,557.60	12,761.60	12,761.60	30,796.00
ARDB for Project in Development of Electrophorensis Tech. for identifying birds and bats aircrafts strike remains.	Nil	1,87,454.00	1,87,454.00	Nil	Nil	1,87,454.00
Aeronautics Research and Development Board Grants Bird Hazard Research Cell	Nil	99,475.00	99,475.00	Nil	Nil	99,475.00
Govt. of India for seminar on NGO	Nil	1,25,000.00	1,25,000.00	69,282.00	69,282.00	55,718.00
GRANTS FROM UNITED STATES DEPT. OF INTERIOR, FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS						
Ecology of Dry Grasslands	7,48,336.77	14,02,932.00	21,51,268.77	12,72,740.25	12,72,740.25	8,78,528.52
Carried over	11,89,954.23	19,09,516.00	30,99,470.23	15,69,131.45	15,69,131.45	15,30,338.78

Schedule C (Contd.)

Name of the Grant	Balance as per last Balance Sheet	Amount Recd./ Receivable during the year	Total of columns 1 & 2	Transferred To Income & Expenditure Account during the year	Expenditure On Objects of Trust / Other Exps. as shown in Income & Exp. Account	Balance as per 31-3-1995
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Brought over	11,89,954.23	19,09,516.00	30,99,470.23	15,69,131.45	15,69,131.45	15,30,338.78
Study of Conservation of Birds of Prey with particular emphasis upon Restoration of Endangered Species ¹	1,47,868.20	Nil	1,47,868.20	34,042.50	34,042.50	1,13,825.70
OTHER GRANTS						
The Smithsonian Institution, Washington For Revision of 'the Handbook of Birds of India & Pakistan'	608.77	Nil	608.77	892.85	892.85	(284.08)
Hawk & Owl Trust - Grassland Roosting Harriers	11,905.60	50,510.00	62,415.60	50,343.85	50,343.85	12,071.75
Endangered Turtles of Pondicherry	4,074.25	Nil	4,074.25	110.60	110.60	3,963.65
Wetland, Mangroves and Coral Reefs in India (UNDP)	1,04,568.60	Nil	1,04,568.60	13,299.75	13,299.75	91,268.85
Grant for Chilka Lake Project	1,000.00	15,000.00	16,000.00	2,931.70	2,931.70	13,068.30
Govt. of Maharashtra, for upkeeping, repairs and maintenance of Hornbill House and Collection.	8,92,000.00	8,86,263.00	17,78,263.00	17,78,263.00	Nil	Nil
Conservation Education Project	14,79,782.47	82,55,121.60	97,34,904.07	54,67,677.87	54,67,677.87	42,67,226.20
TOTAL	38,31,762.12	1,11,16,410.60	1,49,48,172.72	89,16,693.57	71,38,430.57	60,31,479.15

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
SCHEDULE FORMING PART OF THE BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31-3-1995
SCHEDULE D : CASH AND BANK BALANCES

	Rs.
A. In Current Account With	
ANZ Grindlays Bank p.l.c.	
M.G.Road Branch	9,874.38
B. In Savings Account With	
ANZ Grindlays Bank p.l.c.	
M.G.Road Branch	3,891.10
Bank of India	
Museum Savings Branch	62,580.13
State Bank of India	
Gateway of India Branch	1,15,811.16
State Bank of India (CEP)	41,77,226.20
Canara Bank	2,790.95
Sir P.M. Road Branch	
Corporation Bank	36,711.00
Dalal Street Branch	
S.B. A/c 20024 LIC GGS	
Corporation Bank	34,261.21
Dalal Street Branch	
(FCRA Account)	
Deutsche Bank, Bombay Branch	7,21,362.18
Total Rs.	<u>51,64,508.31</u>

**BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
BOMBAY PUBLIC TRUST ACT, 1950 : REGISTRATION NO. F-244 (BOM)
SCHEDULE IX VIDE RULE 17(1)
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1995**

Previous year 1993-94	EXPENDITURE	Current Year 1994-95	Previous year 1993-94	INCOME	Current Year 1994-95
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
	EXPENDITURE IN RESPECT OF PROPERTIES			INTEREST (RECEIVED & ACCRUED)	
9,489.00	Municipal Taxes	11,156.00	110.00	On Government Securities	110.00
278.00	Building Insurance	285.00	3,40,925.93	On Fixed Deposits	4,25,095.01
6,850.00	Repairs and Maintenance includes Rs. 9,02,427.55 met out of Grant from Govt. of Maharashtra	9,49,886.55	23,499.35	On Saving Accounts	10,355.17
16,617.00		9,61,327.55	52,562.00	On ICICI Bonds	80,000.00
			60,358.50	On IDBI Bonds	48,000.00
			4,77,455.78		5,63,560.18
5,35,437.75	ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES	5,91,333.00		Distn. of Income from UTI	10,93,845.01
13,12,326.95	Salaries of Reference Collection and Maintenance staff	17,16,473.60	7,30,432.00		
36,083.40	Salaries to other staff	27,345.00		DONATIONS (In cash or kind)	
22,000.00	Leave Travel Allowances	17,155.95		i) For Specific Purposes:-	
	Reimbursement of Medical Expenses met out of staff welfare fund			a) SANCFC Corpus Fund	400.00
68,400.00	Compensation for staff accommodation	54,000.00	5,000.00	b) Salim Ali Memorial Fund	1,00,000.00
Nil	Uniform and umbrellas to staff	9,264.00	Nil	c) Publication Fund	Nil
4,110.00	Washing Allowances	2,130.00	2,00,000.00	d) Charles MaCann Vertebrate Zoology Fund	600.00
84,588.00	Management's contribution to Provident Fund	88,388.00		e) Hornbill printing	40,000.00
1,72,232.00	Gratuity paid to staff	75,600.00	25,000.00	f) General purposes	1,23,005.65
	Premium paid to BNHS Employees'		1,87,549.00	g) For various projects	Nil
9,35,664.00	Group Gratuity Scheme	37,069.00	2,00,000.00	h) ICICI Environmental Research & Edn. Fund	15,00,000.00
9,190.10	Casual Labour	17,083.25	Nil	i) TISCO - Conservation Education Research & Awareness Fund	20,00,000.00
53,525.50	Meeting expenses	27,852.60	Nil		
37,414.90	Postage Expenses	70,842.95			
40,482.90	Printing & Stationery	47,421.75			
30,058.00	Advertisements	9,350.50			
70,795.90	Telephone Expenses	82,403.40	6,18,149.00		
78,773.52	Electricity Expenses	74,771.80		GRANTS	37,64,005.65
5,785.50	Travelling Expenses	33,137.20		i) From Govt. of Maharashtra for 1994-95	
22,733.00	Conveyance Expenses	24,294.85	1,80,042.75	a) For Collections	2,08,811.75
			61,957.25	b) For Nature Education	33,188.25
			8,000.00	c) For Building Maintenance	8,000.00
			2,50,000.00	Carried forward	2,50,000.00
35,19,601.42	Carried over....	9,61,327.55	18,26,036.78		
16,617.00					54,21,410.84

Previous year 1993-94 Rs.	EXPENDITURE	Current Year 1994-95 Rs.	Previous year 1993-94 Rs.	INCOME	Current Year 1994-95 Rs.
42,28,426.77	Brought over...	52,37,855.35	1,03,93,857.04	Brought over...	1,63,37,570.84
	AMOUNTS TRANSFERRED TO FUNDS			OTHER RECEIPTS	
	AGAINST INCOME			Foreign exchange fluctuations	Nil
2,30,600.00	Specific Purpose Donations	1,000.00	2,908.04	Miscellaneous receipts	19,240.78
1,60,189.96	as per Contra		7,555.65	Royalty on Dr. Salim Ali's	
16,095.45	Life Membership Fees Fund	2,00,700.00	32,190.91	Publications	83,799.46
	50% Royalty on Dr. Salim Ali's	41,899.73		Interest on Loan to Staff	3,373.00
	Publications		4,212.00	Post-Graduate Dept. of Bombay Univ.	39,452.00
Nil	ICICI Environment Research &	15,00,000.00	1,150.00	Surplus on Seminar (Net)	Nil
Nil	Education Fund		1,67,061.46	Transparency Fee	58,000.00
	TISCO Conservation Education	20,00,000.00	Nil	Staff Gratuity	35,801.00
	Research and Awareness Fund		Nil	Surplus on surrender of units of UTI	1,08,990.00
1,312.14	Govt. Publication Fund	Nil	2,30,532.78	Sale proceeds of Vehicles	69,000.00
4,212.00	Interest on loan to staff	3,373.00		(Net of repairs)	
2,30,532.78	Fixed Asset Funds (Net)	69,000.00		Advertisement for Hornbill	Nil
2,83,953.95	Interest allocation to funds	2,82,951.45			4,17,656.24
Nil	Salim Ali Memorial Fund	1,00,000.00		ADMINISTRATIVE FEES	
Nil	Staff Gratuity Fund	35,801.00		For Project Funds	5,68,971.24
61,957.25	Nature Education Scheme 1994-95	33,188.25		For Govt. Publication Funds	1,017.32
9,88,853.53			42,67,913.43	For other funds	Nil
	APPROPRIATIONS TO FUNDS OUT		10,52,926.19		5,69,988.56
	OF SURPLUS			AMOUNTS DRAWN FROM FUNDS	
1,00,000.00	Staff Welfare Fund	25,000.00	39,248.12	For Natural History Studies	Nil
2,00,000.00	Staff Gratuity Fund	Nil	1,52,100.25	Nature Conservation	2,12,283.64
2,00,000.00	General Reserve Fund	Nil	3,023.50	For other Educational Expenses	Nil
50,000.00	Publication Fund	Nil	11,07,896.00	For Gratuity Payment	1,12,669.00
5,00,000.00	Proposed Institution Fund	Nil	4,61,859.12	For Depreciation	4,49,664.11
2,00,000.00	Salim Ali Memorial Fund	Nil	387.00	For Beautification of	
12,50,000.00			25,000.00	Dr. Salim Ali Chowk	12,839.50
	EXPENDITURE ON THE OBJECTS OF THE TRUST			For Publication Fund	1,00,000.00
1,94,371.87	Expenses met out of funds as per		Nil	(John Gold Painting)	
	Schedule "B"	5,02,054.76	Nil	For Staff Medical Expenses	17,155.95
61,85,839.89	Expenses met out of grants as per			(Staff Welfare Fund)	
4,29,013.20	Schedule "C"	71,38,430.57	17,64,513.99	Carried forward	9,04,612.20
68,09,224.96	Journal printing and Postage	1,34,709.50			
	Carried forward	77,75,194.83			
64,67,280.30	Carried over...	95,30,768.78	1,18,96,394.07		1,73,25,215.64

Previous year 1993-94 Rs.	EXPENDITURE	Current Year 1994-95 Rs.	Previous year 1993-94 Rs.	INCOME	Current Year 1994-95 Rs.
64,67,280.30	Brought over...	95,30,768.78	1,18,96,394.07	Brought over...	1,73,25,215.64
68,09,224.96	Brought forward	77,75,194.83	17,64,513.99	Brought forward	9,04,612.20
1,29,531.74	Hornbill Printing and Postage	2,63,335.44	Nil	From General Reserve Fund	65,000.00
10,740.20	Nature Eduation	1,85,932.51	Nil	(For various expenses)	
62,769.55	Members Activities	1,09,573.50	Nil	ICICI Environment Research and	1,12,291.68
20,855.10	Library, Books Binding, Subscriptions & Contingencies	1,10,553.21	Nil	Education Fund	
1,33,433.43	Reference Collection	3,12,559.81		TISCO Conservation Education	77,479.44
	Maintenance Exp.	37,828.00	17,64,513.99	Research and Awareness Fund	
274.75	Postgraduate studies				11,59,383.32
296.90	Laboratory Expenses and Contingencies	1,57,284.10			
71,67,126.63		89,52,261.40			
26,501.13	Balance of Surplus Carried Forward	1,568.78			
1,36,60,908.06		1,84,84,598.96	1,36,60,908.06		1,84,84,598.96

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Sd/-
HONORARY SECRETARY

Sd/-
HONORARY TREASURER

AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE

Sd/-
HABIB AND COMPANY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Bombay
Dated: 30th September, 1995

**BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
NATURE EDUCATION SCHEME
RECEIPT AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31-3-1995**

Previous year 1993-94	RECEIPTS	Current Year 1994-95	Previous Year 1993-94	PAYMENTS	Current Year 1994-95
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
	To Opening balance		1,62,386.62	By Opening Balance	1,51,353.37
1,200.99	In Current Account With ANZ Grindlays Bank p.l.c.	700.99		By Salaries To Nature Education Organiser	53,747.00
61,957.25	To Grant Govt. of Maharashtra	33,188.25	47,924.00		
			3,000.00	By Contingency Expenses	3,000.00
Nil	To Contribution from BNHS (Sp. Charity Race)	1,74,912.12	500.00	By Bank Charges	700.88
1,51,353.37	To Closing Balance	Nil	700.99	By Closing Balance in Current Account with ANZ Grindlays Bank p.l.c.	0.11
2,14,511.61		2,08,801.36	2,14,511.61		2,08,801.36

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE

Sd/-

Sd/-

Sd/-

HONORARY SECRETARY

HONORARY TREASURER

HABIB AND COMPANY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
BOMBAY

Bombay

Dated: 30th September 1995

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting held on 12th December 1995

The Annual General meeting (AGM) of the Society for the year 1994-95 was held on 12.12.1995 at Hornbill House at 6.30 PM, when the following members were present :

Mr. A D Samant, Maj. Madhav Mhaskar, Dr Arun Joshi, Mr. Mihir Devare, Mr. Shashank Ranjit, Mr. Nitin Jamdar, Dr Anita Borges, Dr E. Borges, Dr P G Natrajan, Dr H Buch, Mr. Pramod Paranjpye, Dr Nagraj H, Ms. Asha D Sawant, Mr. D. M. Sawant, Dr M. B. Goyal, Dr Sanjay Sharma, Dr Santosh Rai, Ms. Sonali Saha, Mr. Subodh Tari, Dr Anuradha Samant, Mr. Atul Mathur, Ms. Juliet Mendonca, Mr. Dilip Patil, Mr. J. N. Pande, Mr. V. K. Paralkar, Mr. S. M. Kalim, Dr. S. Unnithan, Ms. Namita Sankhe, Dr. S. M. Satheesan, Mr. Naveen Khanna, Mr. N. V. Adhikari, Mr. S. G. Deshpande, Mr. Shakunt Tari, Mr. R. S. Vartak, Mr. T. R. Munsiff, Mr. A. T. Palande, Mr. Sameer Nangare, Dr. B. F. Chhpagar, Mr. Vijay Pore, Dr. Sanjay Bhagwat, Mr. Vijay Thite, Dr. A. S. Kothari, Mr. F. S. Kazi, Ms. Geeta Pardiwalla, Ms. Visha Gangadharan, Ms. Lakshmi Sundaram, Maj. Gen. E. D'Souza, Ms. Vijaya Deshmukh, Mr. K. P. Karamchandani, Dr. Pratap Saraiya, Prof. P. V. Bole, Mr. M M Sant, Mr. Bansi Mehta, Mrs. Norma Perry, Mr. P. H. Butani, Mr. D. P. Bannerjee, Mr. Meghnad Kulkarni, Mr. Shekhar Shiveshwarkar, Mr. Manish Khodaskar, Dr. L. N. Deshpande, Mr. Suresh Sawant, Mr. Manoj Karkhanis, Ms. Philipa Mukherjee, Mr. Avinash Supe, Mr. Hira Punjabi, Dr. Vibhu Prakash, Mr. S. Futehally, Ms. Lima Rosalind, Mr. Prashant Muley, Mr. Shyam Ghate, Mr. Anil Kunte, Mr. Parvez Cama, Mr. Vilas Shingre, Mr. K. R. Shah, Mr. Sunil R. Zaveri, Dr. Renee M. Borges, Mr. Shahid Ali, Mr. Krishna Kumar, Mr. A. K., Ms. Rita Ganguli, Mr. Rokad Zubair, Mr. R. Singh, Ms. Mehera Dubash, Mr. D. Yesodharan, Mr. K Rameshan, Mr. Chitrasen Chaubey, Mr. S. S. Bandiwadekar, Mr. Subhash Bijlani, Dr. S. M. Almeida, G. V. K. Unnithan, Mr. Pradeep V Rane, Mr. Prasad P Rane, Mr. K P Rane, Mr. V. I. Naik, Mr. V. Arun, Mr. A. S. Mahajan, Mr. H. B. Gupte, Dr S R Gawde,

Mr. Chandra Shekhar, Mr. Surendra J, Mr. Ulhas Rane, Mr. K. N. Shroff, Mr. Naresh Chaturvedi, Dr. Shashi Menon, Mr. M. R. Almeida, Mr. Asad Akhtar, Mr. Reis Manfred, Dr. Sanjay Deshmukh, Ms. D. S. Variava, Mr. J. C. Daniel, Mr. D. A. Patil, Mr. N. N. Muley, Mr. Parag Mungale, Dr. R. D. Bapat, Dr. Parvish Pandya, Mr. Ravi Mahimkar, Dr. A. M. Bhagwat, Ms. M. Kirloskar, Mr. Sachin Kulkarni, Mr. D. V. Gotalkar, Ms. J Sethna, Mr. Manoj Kulkarni, Mr. V. Gopi Naidu, Ms. Bakul Khatau, Mr. S S Sapre, Mr. S. R. Nayak Mr. R. H. Kumavat, Mr. Rishad Naoroji, Ms. Doreen D'Sa Mr. N. D. Mulla, Mr. V. Madhav, Mr. B. Samant, Mr. V. M. Meher Homji, Mr. Pradeep Limaye, Ms. Soonoo Taraporewala, Ms. Neelima Gohil, Mr. Parimal V Shah, Mr. Sanjeev Joshi, Mr. S. P. Godrej, Mr. Piyush Shah, Mr. Shishir Parikh, Mr. Vijay Sanghavi, Mr. Jatin Mehta, Mr. M B Parag, Mr. S. S. Bhujbal, Mr. S. D. Bhaumik, Mr. Dhiren P, Mr. Joslin Rodrigues, Mr. Mayank Mehta, Mr. A. M. Shah, Mr. Ranjit Parikh, Mr. Pradip Doshi, Mr. Sam Bhacka, Mr. Gautam Jain, Mr. M. H. Choksi, Mr. Hemant C. Patel, Mr. L. S. Patel, Mr. Sudhir R. Paradkar, Mr. M. Panicker, Mr. Hitesh R. Shah, Mr. Ravidas Madavkar, Mr. Prakash S. Rane, Mr. S. A. Futehally, Mr. Debi Goenka, Ms. B. Pimento, Ms. Caroline Vincent, Mr. M Surveyor, Ms. Nita Mehta, Mr. Rafiq Sayed, Mr. K K Vajifdar, Mrs. S K Vajifdar, Mr. Paresh Vakil, Ms. Torcato Ronita, Mr. Manual Fernandes, Mr. Deepak Apte, Mr. Ashok Ghangurde, Mr. Jitendra Jhaveri, MR. S. S. Mehta, Mr. Arun Samant, Mr. H. C. Mistry, Mr. Mohan Amladi, Dr. Ashok Joshi, Mr.. Suresh Bhatkal and Mr. Rajan John.

FELICITATION TO DONORS

Before the commencement of the AGM, all those who had donated more than Rs. 1 lakh to the Society during the year 1994-95 were felicitated by the Vice President, Mrs. D. S. Variava. Mementos were presented to representatives of: Royal Western India Turf Club and Purshotamdas Thakurdas and Divaliba Charitable Trust. The following donors

were not represented, their mementos were sent to them : Shri Vasant Panse, Siporex, ICICI Ltd., TISCO Ltd.

Mrs Variava stated that it is necessary to recognise both the donor and the person who encourages the donation to be given, and she extended thanks to Mr. B. G. Deshmukh, Dr. P. R. Saraiya and Mr. Sunil Zaveri for the donations that had been received. This programme was followed by High Tea. The AGM then started at 6.30 PM.

NO CONFIDENCE MOTION

Mrs. D. S. Variava, Vice President, who was in the Chair announced that the first business of the meeting would be the consideration of a No Confidence Motion and the Executive Committee (EC)'s views on the same. The No Confidence Motion received read as under :

"Resolved that the members express NO-CONFIDENCE in the present Office Bearers (i.e. President, Vice-Presidents, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and Director) of the BNHS". (Proposed by Ms Mehera Dubash and Mr. Anil Kunte and seconded by Mr Dilip Patil and Mr. Shakunt Tari).

Before addressing this issue Mrs. Variava stated that she wished to explain why she was taking the Chair and not the Society's President, Mr. B. G. Deshmukh. She then read out the letter of resignation from Mr. Deshmukh. She informed the members that the Executive Committee had considered the letter of resignation and had passed the following resolution :

"The EC received with deep regret and sadness the letter of resignation dtd. 12 December 1995 from Mr. B. G. Deshmukh from the Presidentship of the Society due to his name "being dragged by some members unnecessarily into the electoral politics of the Society".

The EC hereby records its full confidence in its President, Mr. B. G. Deshmukh and deep appreciation of all that he has done to strengthen the Society through selfless service and through sterling qualities of leadership of the Society.

The EC urges Mr. B. G. Deshmukh to kindly

reconsider his resignation in the interest of the Society".

Mrs. Variava stated that this resolution was passed by all members of the EC present at its meeting today with one exception, Mr. Ulhas Rane, who dissented.

Mrs. Variava further stated that the proposed motion of No Confidence was against the President, Vice Presidents, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and the Director. The President had resigned and the Vice President felt that it was not appropriate to take the Chair and therefore requested the EC to elect a member to take the Chair. Mr. Karamchandani was unanimously elected to take the Chair for the EC meeting and also for the AGM.

Mrs. Variava pointed out that Mr. Karamchandani was a nominated member, and was not standing for election. She said the EC receives the proposed resolutions and has to decide whether to place the matter before the AGM or put it up for a Referendum. Mr. Karamchandani would apprise members of the EC's decisions.

Mrs. Variava then requested Mr. Karamchandani to take the Chair. At this point name of Maj. Gen. (Retd) E. D'Souza was proposed to Chair the AGM. However, it was pointed out that under Rule 55 only if none of the members of the EC is present at the AGM, members can nominate and appoint a member from amongst themselves as a Chairman. Mr Karamchandani, Chairman, read out the EC's resolution as given below :

"Resolved that the Resolution of No-Confidence in the present office bearers of the Society (i.e. President, Vice Presidents, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and Director) of the BNHS be placed before all the members of the Society by a Referendum as the No-Confidence motion will affect the working of the Society and therefore all the members of the Society. (Rule 70)".

Mr. Rane insisted that the motion of No-Confidence should be put before the AGM and not sent for Referendum to all members.

Mr. Rane's attention was drawn to the fact that the No Confidence Motion concerns all members of

the Society and therefore it was necessary to obtain their opinion thereon and this was the reason why the EC decided to send it for Referendum. Mr. Rane again suggested that under Rule 71 there was no necessity for a Referendum. Mrs. Variava then read out the Rule 71 which relates to only interpretation of the rules and bye-laws and specifically refers to any questions not provided in the rules.

The Chairman then asked the members to discuss the No Confidence Motion. Several members aired their grievances and there was a certain amount of agitation and in some cases a loss of decorum. After considerable discussions Mr. Nitin Jamdar drew attention to the fact that the EC was due for re-election and at this point of time a No Confidence Motion would serve no purpose other than incurring of considerable expenditure by the Society. Other members also requested the sponsors of the Resolution to withdraw the same and Ms. Mehera Dubash agreed to do so provided a meeting was arranged within 10 days between members and the EC to discuss problems faced by the members. On a verbal assurance from the Chairman that such a meeting would be convened soon Ms. Mehera Dubash and others withdrew the resolution and members expressed their appreciation of their action.

The Chairman then took up the regular agenda items for consideration.

Item 1

Confirmation of the Minutes of the AGM held on 15 September 1994.

Some members protested that minutes had not been received by them. It was pointed out that as per the notes sent with the agenda, the minutes and the accounts were to be supplied to members on written request. Mr. Rane stated that members who had joined after 14th July had not received the minutes. Mr. Debi Goenka pointed out that there was an earlier decision that minutes will be circulated only to members who had attended the AGM and that others will be supplied the minutes on a written request.

Mr. Daniel proposed and Mr. Sunil Zaveri

seconded that the minutes be adopted and they were so adopted.

Item 2

Consideration and adoption of the Annual Report of the Executive Committee for the year ended 31st March 1995.

(A) CONSERVATION

Concern was expressed that the BNHS was not pulling its weight on conservation issues. The Chairman of the Salim Ali Nature Conservation Fund Sub-Committee explained the various fields in which the Society and its Conservation Officer has been active. A detailed note on the action taken on conservation problems was available for members.

Mrs. Philipa Mukherjee, Secretary of the Palni Hills Conservation felt that the Society should be much more active and publicly oriented if it was to be effective. She felt that the membership was rather low for a Society of its eminence and age and research in conservation activities should be increased.

Mrs. Variava felt that the Society had an important role to perform in providing a scientific background for conservation issues.

An apprehension was expressed that acceptance of funds may dilute the conservation efforts of the Society. It was assured that the EC had the Society's commitment to conservation in mind and would not permit any dilution of its conservation role.

(B) CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROJECT

Dr. Shashi Menon, Chairman of the Conservation Education Project (CEP) Sub-Committee replied to the queries concerning the progress of the CEP.

The main reason for the delay in implementation was the fact that the land had not been transferred to the Society by Government. But through the good offices of the President, the Municipal Commissioner was willing to overlook the non-availability of transfer deed for the work to continue. The initial calculation of the area of the Centre as 500 Sq Mts was arbitrary, and so also the

estimated cost of Rs 23 lakhs. As the area had to be increased to 700 Sq Mts an amount of 43 lakhs was provided by Overseas Development Administration (ODA), UK. There were unfortunately several lacunae in the information inputs from the Architect, namely several peripheral works such as security deposits with the municipality totaling 68 lakhs, subsequently reduced to 10% of the amount, through the good offices of the President, internal access road, water tank, street lights, electric substation, water supply, electrical fixtures. The cost of these worked out to 28 lakhs which had to be paid from the Society's funds. The Centre which should have been completed within 43 lakhs would end up costing over 60 lakhs.

A member, who is a Civil Engineer expressed surprise that the Architect should have omitted to advise his client of these crucial points and wanted to know how the costs are to be met. The Honorary Treasurer explained that through the good offices of the President several organisations had extended financial support for the purpose.

Mr. Rane, the Architect, admitted that the layout proposal, etc. were not included in the estimate which was limited to the building of the Centre. Tender costs have not increased. He stated that he was satisfied with the quality of work. Only 5% of work remained to be done. The Architect emphasised that he was working in an honorary capacity (out of the 7% architect fee he would be returning to the Society 2%, the rest being utilised for structural consultants 2% and architect's out of pocket expenses 3%) but he has had problems with the EC. The location being beyond availability of infrastructure facilities has put up the cost.

Dr. P. R. Saraiya emphasised that it was expected that the entire cost of commissioning the Centre would be met by the ODA, else the Society would not have taken up the project if its own funds had to be utilised.

(C) SCIENTIFIC STAFF

In reply to a query on the scientists leaving the Society, the Honorary Secretary gave a statement on the present status of the scientists who had left

our service. He also advised that a corpus fund for core scientists was being established and presently the President had acquired funds for employing two core scientists. The idea was to collect more funds of this nature so that our scientific staff could be sustained on a more permanent basis.

(D) NANDADEVI CAMP

A member queried the cancellation of the Nandadevi Camp which had caused considerable inconvenience. The Honorary Secretary explained that the basic reason for the cancellation was that in spite of personal meetings with the Forest Department by the Programme Officer, we were not able to obtain permission to visit the Nandadevi sanctuary which had now been completely closed for a period of 5 years. This ban is likely to be extended. The Society was, therefore, reluctantly compelled to cancel the programme. There was no possibility of our members being allowed into the sanctuary or its buffer zone.

(E) ADVERTISEMENT ON TRAINS

Mr Subhash Bijlani inquired whether any action had been taken on his suggestion that advertisements carrying conservation messages be put on the railway rakes. Mrs. Variava stated that she had also wished to advertise some of the BNHS products similarly. However, financial constraints prevented action and this matter is kept pending till resources are available.

(F) BIGGER BUS FOR BNHS FIELD ACTIVITIES

There was a suggestion to try and obtain a bus with a larger seating capacity. The Honorary Secretary stated the Committee would look into the matter provided funds were available.

Mr. Sunil Zaveri proposed and Dr. Saraiya seconded the adoption of the Annual Report. It was so adopted.

Item 3

Consideration and adoption of the balance sheet and statement of accounts for the year ended 31st

March 1995

(A) The Honorary Treasurer advised that due to the good offices of the President, Shri B. G. Deshmukh the Society has received donations totaling Rs 55 lakhs and has been able to wipe out the deficit of the previous year and is in a comfortable financial position. It was noted with regret that Mr. Panse had withdrawn his offer of Rs 1 lakh donation owing to internal dissensions within the Society. Mr. P Cama expressed his appreciation of the President's efforts to put the Society in a financially stable position and wondered why other members were not able to assist the Society similarly.

(B) Mr. Rane said that he had given a proposal for fund raising through various activities which was never considered by the EC. Mrs. Variava said that whenever an EC member put a proposal he should be able to convince other EC members of its viability.

(C) Capt. Deshpande inquired about the decreasing receipts from the membership as compared to that of last year, while we have shown an increasing membership number. He also inquired about the receipt from Publications as compared to last year. The Honorary Treasurer clarified that the last year's balance sheet was for 15 months because of the change in the financial year and the figures are therefore on the higher side as compared to this year.

(D) Maj. Madhav Mhaskar inquired about charging of administrative fees on various projects. The Honorary Treasurer replied that such fees were charged only on the projects funded by outside agencies to meet the administrative costs. However, there is no administrative fees charged on projects internally sponsored and funded by SANCF, Natural History Funds, etc.

Dr. Sanjay Bhagwat proposed and Mr. J. C. Daniel seconded that the balance sheet and accounts be adopted.

Item 4**Appointment of auditors for the year 1st April 1995 to 31st March 1996 and fixing of their remuneration**

It was resolved that M/s. Habib & Co., Chartered Accountants, Mumbai 400 023, be

reappointed as the Auditors for the Society for the year 1.4.1995 to 31.3.1996 on a total remuneration of Rs 5000/- (Rupees five thousand only).

Item 5**Election to the Executive Committee for the Calendar Years 1996 and 1997**

The Honorary Secretary announced that a total of 39 names have been received. Of these 2 are rejected due to lack of proposer and seconder's names, two members have withdrawn their names and one has sent the form in duplicate. There are therefore 34 valid nominees for election to the EC of 1996-97. To an inquiry raised by a member regarding election procedures, it was stated that it is conducted as per the rule nos. 34 and 35. There was a suggestion that it should be supervised by an independent Committee. However the rules do not permit appointment of such an external authority for the conduct of the election.

Item 6**Any other business with the permission of the chair**

Resolutions received :

(A) Members' address list. Rule No. 19 :-

"The list of up to date members with addresses and phone numbers shall be furnished to any member at reasonable cost (xerox charges/printout cost/floppy) to be fixed by the EC from time to time, within seven days of his written request to the Honorary Secretary".

(Proposed by Dr. Renee Borges and seconded by Mr. Shakunt Tari).

It was noted that many members objected to their names and addresses being given to any party whether a member of the Society or otherwise. It was therefore agreed to accept the proposal with the modifications that members who do not wish to have their names and addresses included for circulation should inform the Society. With this modification the amendment was accepted.

(B) Denotification of Protected Areas :-

"It is resolved that BNHS condemn the denotification of protected areas from wildlife

sanctuaries and tiger reserves by State Governments.

BNHS calls for renotification of areas which have been denotified and for a halt on any further denotification”.

(Proposed by Dr. A. M. Bhagwat and seconded by Mr. J. C. Daniel).

The proposal was accepted unanimously.

(C) Corpus Funds :- “Resolved that the funds of ICICI Environmental Research and Education Fund of Rs 15 lakhs (Rupees fifteen lakhs only) and TISCO Conservation Education, Research and Awareness Fund of Rs 20 lakhs (Rupees twenty lakhs), presently shown under Schedule - B, i.e. other funds of the Bombay Natural History Society, shall not be withdrawn without the prior approval of 90% of the members of the Society by way of Referendum as provided in the Rules and Regulations of the Society.

These funds which are presently invested in 1,50,000 units monthly income plan of the Unit Trust of India of Rs 15 lakhs for ICICI Environmental Research and Education Funds, and in fixed deposits with Indian Oil Corporation of Rs 20 lakhs for TISCO Conservation Education Research and

Awareness Funds, shall not be encashed, before maturity, without the prior approval of 90% of the members of the Society by way of Referendum as provided in the rules and regulations of the Society. Further, when the above deposits mature, the same shall be immediately reinvested in a similar manner.

The Society shall utilise only the interest from the above earmarked funds in accordance with the Terms of Reference as given by the Donors and approved by the Executive Committee of the Society”.

(Proposed by Mr. Sunil Zaveri and seconded by Dr. A. M. Bhagwat)

The proposal was approved unanimously.

(D) President's Resignation :-

Prof. P. V. Bole proposed and Mr. M. R. Almeida seconded a resolution requesting the President, Mr. B. G. Deshmukh to withdraw his resignation from the Presidency of the Society. The resolution was approved unanimously by the General Body.

The meeting terminated with the vote of thanks to the Chair, which was proposed by Mr. N. D. Mulla and seconded by Mr. Nitin Jamdar.